LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY

221. R. 14

The History of Kettering.

THE "HISTORY OF KETTERING" COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED COMPLETE WITHOUT ATTENTION BEING DRAWN TO

"The Emporium,"

11 & 12, HIGH STREET,

WHICH WAS OPENED IN OCTOBER, 1890, BY

Messrs. DICKINSON & EADY,

TO SUPPLY THE PUBLIC OF KETTERING AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WITH

Drapery, ✲ Dress ✲ Goods, ✲ Mantles, ✲ Millinery,

GLOVES, HOSIERY,

RIBBONS, LACES, CORSETS,

Skirts, Umbrellas, &c.

AS IT IS THEIR ENDEAVOUR TO SUPPLY GOODS OF RELIABLE QUALITY AND STERLING VALUE, THEY CAN WITH CONFIDENCE INVITE THE ATTENTION OF LADIES TO THEIR CAREFULLY-SELECTED STOCK.

"THE EMPORIUM,"

11 & 12, High Street, KETTERING.

DICKINSON & EADY - - Proprietors.

All the Year Round

THE PUBLIC

May depend upon being supplied

WITH

FIRST-CLASS

PROVISIONS

AT THE

LOWEST PRICES.

Try Our Fresh Devonshire Butter ! !

H. J. BYE,

POST OFFICE BUILDINGS,

KETTERING.

R. M. Seycanthe
Nov 12th 1906.
With the Author's kind regards.

HISTORY OF KETTERING.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2025 with funding from
Northamptonshire Record Society

https://archive.org/details/nrs0021

A Plan of the Town of Kettering in Northamptonshire.

T. Eayre delin.

1 Dulmore Street
2 The Pound
3 Newland Street
4 Newland Pond
5 Mr Baker's Close
6 The Hogleys
7 Churchyard St. Peters
8 Parsonage Gardens
9 The Bowling green
10 Mr Sayre's House and Gardens
11 Mr Woodford's House and Gardens
12 Free School House and Gardens
13 Work House and Gardens
14 The Bakehouse Hill
15 Silty Way Lane
16 Park stile Lane
17 The Rectory Mannor
18 The Parsonage House
19 The Corn Hill
20 Market House and Cross
21 Northall
22 Northall Pond
23 Wadoroft Lane
24 T. Eayres Founding House &c.
25 Glovers Pond (Lane
26 Mill Lane alias Goose pasture
27 Sheep Market
28 The Swan Yard
29 The White hart Yard
30 The George Yard
31 The Hospital
32 Stanch Lane
33 Brick Kilns
34 North Bridge
35 White Hart Meadow
36 Wadoroft
37 Smiths Cherry Orchard
38 The Dam Meadow or Mr Somes.
39 Pan Meadow
40 Goose Pasture
41 Mill Plank
42 Barely's Pond
43 Hall Lane
44 Hall Bridge
45 Hall Meadow

A SKETCH

OF THE HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF

KETTERING

TOGETHER WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF ITS

WORTHIES

BY

FREDK. WM. BULL

ILLUSTRATED BY HUGH WALLIS.

Kettering:
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE PRINTING AND PUBLISHING CO., LIMITED.
London:
ALEXANDER & SHEPHEARD, FURNIVAL STREET, HOLBORN, E.C.

1891.

(*All rights reserved.*)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY
LIBRARY

TO

JOHN WALLIS, ESQUIRE,

OF KETTERING,

WITHOUT WHOSE KINDLY ASSISTANCE AND

UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LOCAL RECORDS IT

WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN WRITTEN;

THIS HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF A TOWN, WITH THE INCREASING PROSPERITY

AND ENLIGHTENED GOVERNMENT OF WHICH

HE HAS BEEN FOR SO MANY YEARS

PROMINENTLY CONNECTED,

IS GRATEFULLY DEDICATED,

BY THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE.

Some time since I determined to collect what few facts I could relating to the history of Kettering—for it was said the town had no real history—and publish them either in the shape of two or three articles or a small pamphlet.

I soon found out that the general belief as to the extreme paucity of information obtainable was an erroneous one, but nevertheless pursued my original idea of collecting as many facts as I could which in any way referred to Kettering, and the varied collection so made is to be found in the following pages. It will, I think, conclusively show that, although Kettering is not what may be called a historic town, yet that it is by no means without a history of its own—a history, moreover, which will, it is hoped, be of interest and of some value to subscribers.

I am in no small degree indebted to, and have to sincerely thank, the many correspondents, acquaintances, and friends who have in one way or another, with unvarying courtesy, aided me in the production of this work.

My thanks are specially due to John Wallis, Esq., for the loan of MSS. and local books; to his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, K.T., and Messrs. Nicholl, Manisty, & Co., for

information respecting manorial history; to Rev. Canon Lindsay, M.A., for much information as to the Church and its Registers; to J. A. Gotch, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., for the loan of MSS. and other assistance; to Mr. Hugh Wallis for the sketches so kindly made to illustrate this book; and to Mr. Charles Wise for varied information, and for his kind permission to make use of certain particulars appearing in his recently published work on "Rockingham Castle and the Watsons."

FREDK. WM. BULL.

Kettering, 18th September, 1891.

CONTENTS.

PART I.

THE TOWN AND MANOR.

PAGE

From Roman and Saxon Times to the Present Day 1

PART II.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

CHAP.

I. The Founding of the Workhouse 54

II. Parochial Rates 61

III. Present Government 70

PART III.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

I. Description of the Church 71

II. The Bells 77

III. The Restoration 81

IV. The Chantry Chapel 84

V. The Church Endowments 86

VI. The Advowson and List of Rectors 92

VII. The Registers, etc 96

PART IV.

THE NONCONFORMISTS.

CHAP.		PAGE
I.	The Friends	99
II.	The Independents	101
III.	The Baptists	105
IV.	The Wesleyan Methodists	113

PART V.

ENDOWMENTS AND CHARITIES.

I.	The Grammar School	114
II.	The Town Charities	121
III.	The Independent or "Great Meeting" Charities	132
IV.	The Baptist Charities	134

PART VI.

NOTABILIA.

I.	Kettering Stone	136
II.	The Press	137
III.	Medals and Tokens	139
IV.	Old Customs as described in Old Cases	141
V.	Old Terms used in the Inclosure Proceedings	157
VI.	Rotten Row and the Market Place	160
VII.	Street Names	162
VIII.	Water Supply	166
IX.	Huxloe Hundred	168
X.	Register of Rainfall, 1864-1890	170

PART VII.

THE WORTHIES.

	PAGE
Allen, Thomas	172
Brine, John	173
Browne, John	175
Corrie, Henry	175
Eayre Family	176
Fish, Henry	177
Fuller, Andrew	178
Gill, Dr. John	179
Gotch, Frederick William	181
Knibb, William	182
Leatherland, John Ayre	185
Maddock, Abraham	186
Maidwell, John	187
Munn, Jonathan	188
Mursell, James	188
Plummer, John	189
Robinson, William	191
Satchell, John	192
Smart, John	193
Toller, Thomas Northcote	193
Toller, Thomas	194
Vevers, Richard, B.D.	195
York, Old	196

INDEX 197

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

PLAN OF KETTERING (reduced from Eayre's plan, *circa* 1720) *Frontispiece*

TO FACE PAGE

THE MISSION HOUSE (from a sketch by Hugh Wallis) 49

WORKHOUSE LANE (from a sketch by Hugh Wallis) 58

THE CHURCH (from a sketch by Hugh Wallis) 71

INTERIOR OF CHURCH FROM THE CHANCEL (before the Restoration) 74

CHURCH PORCH (from sketch by Hugh Wallis) 76

THE OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL (drawn by H. Wallis from a sketch by George Clark) 114

THE ALMSHOUSES (from a sketch by H. Wallis) 128

PLAN OF MARKET PLACE (reduced from a plan by J. Hennell)... 160

HAZLEWOOD'S HOUSE AND LANE (drawn by H. Wallis) 162

REV. THOMAS ALLEN (reduced from a portrait appearing in the "Practice of a Holy Life") 172

REV. ANDREW FULLER (reduced from an engraving) 178

DR. JOHN GILL (from an engraving) 180

REV. WM. KNIBB (from an engraving)..... 184

REV. T. N. TOLLER (from an engraving) 193

REV. THOMAS TOLLER (from a photograph by A. Knighton; reproduced by permission of Charles Percival, Kettering)..... 194

HISTORY OF KETTERING.

PART I.

THE TOWN AND MANOR.

In the Eastern division of the county of Northampton, in the hundred variously written as Hocheslau, Hokeslawe, Huckeslowe, Huxlow, and Huxloe, and principally situated on rising ground, is the rapidly growing town of Kettering—the subject of this sketch.

The word *Kettering* has been variously derived, but the popular theory that it is connected with, or derived from, St. Katherine, who is said to have had a well somewhere in the town, cannot be entertained. The true derivation is doubtless that given by Professors W. W. Skeat and Northcote Toller, the former of whom says, "The old Anglo-Saxon names of *Kettering* were *Cytringan* and *Cyteringas*. It is seldom that an Anglo-Saxon *C* comes out as hard *K* in modern English; it often goes into *ch*. But it remains as *k* when the vowel *y* follows. Thus, A.-S. *cyn* is E. *kin*; whereas A.-S. *cinn* is E. *chin*. We should expect that the modern English name would be *Kittering*. But this need not trouble us, as there is the old spelling in evidence. *Cytringan* is in the dative case plural. The singular nominative is *Cytring* or *Cytering*. The other form *Cytringas* is in the nominative plural. *Ing* is a tribal suffix, while A.-S. *cyte* is a cot or dwelling. Hence must have been formed a word *cytere*, a cottar; for though not exactly found in A.-S., it is common in Latinised forms (see *Cotter-ellus*, *Coterius*, *Coteria*, also modern French *Coterie*, literally a society of cottars, now a sort of club). Thus *Cyt-er-ing* is 'a tribe (or clan) of cottars.'"[1]

It is possible, however, that Kettering may boast of an antiquity

[1] There was a special kind of tenure called *Coteria*, which see in Ducange's Low Latin Dictionary.

greater even than the Anglo-Saxon times to which the derivation of its name and other evidence point; for in digging the foundations of the Temperance Hall, in Gold Street, in 1864, certain remains were discovered which were said to indicate that the spot had been the site of a Roman iron smelting furnace.[1] If this opinion was a correct one it is quite possible, indeed probable, that Kettering owes its origin to the Romans, who, in the fourth and fifth centuries, diligently worked the iron mines of this county, and recognised the fact that the tract of land now known as Northamptonshire was a great iron-producing district. That there was no lack of fuel is evident, when it is remembered that Rockingham Forest at this time probably covered the whole of the northern division of the county. Whether in addition to the furnace the Romans erected any of their villas on the site of Kettering, or whether they contented themselves with building temporary huts for the workmen engaged in the iron trade, it is impossible to say. But it is probable that no villas were built, for no tesselated pavements or other remains usually to be found on the site of such structures have been discovered, although various relics in the shape of urns, coins, and bones had, in Bridges' time, been found in digging stone between Weekley Woods and Kettering, while at Wellingborough, as is well known, there was a large Roman station or town, the site of which is now known as Chester Camp. Moreover, the fact that, in 1726, many coins of Trajan, Marcus Aurelius, Faustina, Gordianus, Antoninus, Augustus, Claudius, Constantine, Maximianus, Carausius, Allectus, Middle brass, Cæsar Germanicus, Agrippina, and Drusilli filia were found at Kettering tends to support the theory that the Romans occupied its site.[2]

The Romans evacuated Britain about the beginning of the fifth century, and although the Manor of Kettering appears to have been the property of the Abbots of Medeshamstede, afterwards known as Burg or Peterborough, at an earlier date, it was not until Saxon

---

[1] Several pieces of scoriæ were also found—one piece weighing upwards of three cwts. The workmen also turned up an ancient mattock. The eye of the implement not being welded, but clumsily bent round to inclose the handle.

[2] A brass seal with St. Michael and the dragon, circumscribed "S. Willelmi Chesterton" (of post Roman date), was found in the old Kettering field near Rothwell, where also, under a large stone, covering a cell or vault, was also found a small brass hog. These articles, together with the collection of coins above mentioned, were once in the hands of one of the Sawyers, of Kettering, and were, in 1776, shown by him to the Society of Antiquaries.

times, viz., the year 956, that the first distinct mention of Kettering is found. In that year, however, it emerges from the mists of antiquity and conjecture, and under the name of Cytringan was granted by King Edwy as something solid and substantial to his thane, Aelfsige the goldsmith. The grant is curious, and the translation of it runs thus :—

"In the name of the Saviour of the world, and Redeemer of the human race, Jesus Christ our Lord, who alone with the Father and the Holy Spirit holds the eternal kingdom, I, Eadwig, by the divine ordinance indefatigable King of the English and of divers nations, grant to one of my thanes, by name Aelfsige, ten cassati for ever in that place which, on the statement of many men, is called thus—'at Cytringan'; from henceforth he shall enjoy our gift in security while he lives, and at his death shall bestow it as a possession for ever to whomsoever he please, with its fields, pastures, meadows, and woods. Moreover let this land be free from every civil obligation save the fyrd brycg bot and burh bot. But if anyone puffed up with tyrannical power attempt to infringe the charter of this our decree let him know that he will have to render an account at the tremendous inquiry before Christ and his Angels, unless he [the offender] have previously succeeded in repairing his infringement. The land appears to be bounded by these limits; these are the boundaries [of the land] at Cytringan: Cransley bridge along the brook until it [*i.e.*, the boundary] comes to Humbridge (Hunan bricge) from Humbridge to the gallows tree on Debden (deopandene): from Debden to Kinston Head from Kinston Head to the long dike: from the long dike to Weekley ford along the Ise until it comes to Pytchley ford: from the ford along the brook until it comes back to Cransley bridge. This charter was written in the year of the incarnation of the Lord 956 14th year of the indiction.

"+ I Eadwig, King of the Angli have granted without reserve.
"+ I Eadgar, brother of the said king have agreed.
"+ I Odo, Archbishop, &c., &c."

Aelfsige does not appear to have held Kettering long, however, for in 972, King Edgar by charter granted Kyteringas to the Monastery of Medeshamstede. This Charter is given by Gunton, Kemble, and others, but it is marked as spurious by Kemble. Whether it be genuine or not, however, it would seem that Kettering was at this date in the hands of the monastery of

Medeshamstede, for it is recorded in the Ely History[1] that "After the death of Edgar in 975, Leofsi, son of Bixi, an enemy to God and deceiver of his fellow-men, by rapine and violence despoiled the convent of Medeshamsted of its possessions in Burch, Undele, and Katering, the lands lying waste without tillage or culture for two years."

Leofsi, however, did not long retain his ill-gotten possessions, for Athelwold, Bishop of Winchester (who had been instrumental in 966 in reconstructing the monastery of Medeshamstede, which had been destroyed by the Danes in 870), bestirring himself in the matter, "brought his complaint before a general convention of the States, held in London, and obtained a judgment against Leofsi by which he was obliged to restore the lordships, already mentioned, to the Monks, and to make satisfaction for his breach of the peace, and infringement of their privileges. This sentence was confirmed eight days afterwards in an assembly of the county at Northampton: all the people swearing on the cross that without fraud they would restore to the Bishop his just rights." "The aforesaid Leofsi, who had so greatly afflicted the servants of God died shortly afterwards miserably and shamefully by divine vengeance."

Whether or not Kettering suffered from the Danish inruption into Northamptonshire, in 1010, there is nothing to show; and the next mention of the town occurs in the Domesday Survey which, so far as this county is concerned, was compiled between 1083-86.

In Domesday Book then Kettering is thus mentioned:—"Terrae S. Petri de Burg. Ipsa aecclesia tenet x. hidas in Cateringe. Terra est xvi carucarum. In domino est una et i ancilla et xxxi villani cum x carucis. Ibi ii molini de xx solidis et cvii acrae prati et iii acrae silvae. Valuit x libras. Modo xi libras."

The paragraph, freely translated, runs as follows:—"The Church of St. Peter of Burg holds 10 hides in Cateringe. The amount of arable land is 16 carucates. In demesne there is one carucate and one bondswoman; and 31 villeins hold 10 carucates. There are two mills worth 20*s.* yearly and 107 acres of meadow and three acres of wood. It was formerly worth 10*l.*, now (it is worth) 11*l.*"

In the Liber Niger Monasterii S. Petri de Burgo (circa 1125-28), amongst the "descriptio maneriorum Abbatiae de Burhe desicut

[1] See Bridges, vol. ii., pp. 241, 405, who quotes from Hist. Eliensis, pp. 468-9, apud Quind. Script. Edit. Gale. See also Liber Eliensis, vol. i., pp. 121-3. London, 1848.

Walterius Archidiaconus eam recepit et saisivit in manu Regis," the next reference to Kettering is to be found in these words :— "In Kateringes which is assessed at 10 hides 40 villani hold 40 yard lands [or virgates]. And these men for the lords work plough in spring 4 acres for each virgate. And besides this they find plough teams (carucas) three times in winter, three times for spring ploughing, and once in summer. And they have twenty-two plough teams wherewith they work. And all of them work 3 days a week. And besides this they render per annum for each virgate of custom 2*s.* 11½*d.* And they all render 50 hens and 640 eggs. And besides this Aegelricus[1] holds 13 acres and renders 16*d.* and [has] 2 acres of meadow. And there is here one mill with a miller and he pays 20*s.* And 8 cotsetes each holding 5 acres. They work once a week and twice a year make malt. Each of them gives a penny for a goat and if he has a she-goat a halfpenny. And there is here one shepherd and one swineherd who hold 8 acres. And in the demesne of the manor (*curiae*) are 4 plough teams with 32 oxen [*i.e.*, 8 to each team], 12 cows with 10 calves, and 2 unemployed animals, and 3 draught cattle, and 300 sheep, and 50 pigs and as much meadow over as is worth 16*s.* The Church of the village is at the altar of the abbey church of Burg. For the love feast of St. Peter[2] [they give] 4 rams and 2 cows, or 5*s.* The returns from the estate of Kettering are £26 yearly."

There is no definite record as to when a church was first erected at Kettering, but it would appear from the sentence referring to the church in the foregoing account (Et aecclesia hujus villae ad altare Abbatiae Burgi) that it is possible there was one in existence at the time the Liber Niger was written. The population in those days would justify the existence of one, for the tenants were

Villani...	...	...	40
Aegelricus	...	...	1
Miller ..	...	...	1
Cotsetes	...	...	8
Shepherd	...	...	1
Swineherd	...	...	1

[1] There is another reference to Aegelricus in the Liber Niger, running as follows :—"In Pihtesle—Aegelricus of Kettering renders 6d. for the land he occupies."

[2] "The love feast (caritas) of St. Peter may possibly, like the fairs of St. Cuthbert, be a survival of ancient pagan sacrifices allowed to continue by permission of Pope Gregory the Great. See Hazlitt, under 'Wakes' and 'Fairs,' and Du Cange, under 'Caritas.'"—*English Village Community*, by Frederic Seebohm. Longmans, 1883, p. 73.

i.e., 52 households besides those of the manor house (in domino curiae). Each of these households may have included members helping in the work, and therefore they may have been much larger than our average households of five to each, so that the population must have been at least 300 to 500 souls.

The place must have presented a strange appearance. There were then scarcely any inclosures except those of the lord of the manor; and the open fields tilled by the tenants, when they were not working for the Abbot, their lord, lay all round the town—the outlying parts of Rockingham Forest forming, possibly, a background in the distance. The town itself, too, consisting probably of a collection of rude huts—the only buildings of any pretensions being perhaps the church and manor house—would tax the imagination to picture, and is not a scene that need be dwelt on.

By a charter of Stephen, which bears no date, the Abbot of Burgh obtained license of free warren in his Manor of Keteringe, with a prohibition of hunting to all others under the penalty of x*l.*[1]

About 1145, Martin of Bec or de Vecti, the then Abbot of Peterborough, journeyed to Rome and obtained from Pope Eugenius the Third a confirmation of all the lands and liberties of the Abbey. Gunton[2] relates that Martin took with him a Charter of King Ethelred (successor of Wulfere, who had also made a grant to the Monastery by a charter[3] bearing date 664) that the Pope might confirm it. "But in the Consistory there arose a debate about the form of the Charter which hitherto had gone current for the space of almost 500 years: for one of the Cardinals present besought the Pope, that he would not give the honour of his name to another; whereupon a new Charter was granted to Abbot Martin in the name of Eugenius, and the name of King Ethelred, Founder, and Benefactor was put out." In this new Charter, which is dated 1146, the

[1] The Charter runs as follows :—"Stephanus Rex Anglorum Justiciariis vicecomitibus Baronibus et Ministris suis de Norhamtanescire salutem. Concedo quod Abbas de Burgo habeat Warennam in Terra sua de Keteringe et precipio quod nullus fuget in ea sine licentia ejus super decem Libras foris factione. Teste Hugone de Essarta apud Dunstaple."—Bridges' Collection at the Bodleian Library.

[2] The History of the Church of Peterburgh by Symon Gunton, late Prebendary of the Church. And set forth by Symon Patrick, D.D., now Dean of the same. London : Printed for Richard Chiswell, at the Rose and Crown in S. Paul's Church-Yard. 1686.

[3] Supposed by Kemble to be spurious.

town is thus specifically granted: "Keteringge with the church and the mill and with all its appurtenances."

Mention is also made of the church in the first year of Richard I. (1189) when the township of Ketering with the church and a mill and with all its appurtenances was confirmed by charter to the Monastery of Burg and its Abbot Benedictus.[1]

In connection with the speculation as to when a church first existed at Kettering, the following paragraph from Gunton on the subject of church building will be of interest:—"The whole Country adjoyning Burgh, and which is now known as Burgh-soke, was all a woody and solitary place, until Abbot Adulphus (972-92) cut down woods, built Manors, and Granges, and let the Lands to farm for certain Rents; so that the people increasing, and as yet no Churches built amongst them, they came to Peterburgh to receive the Sacraments, and to pay their Church-duties, which continued for many years after. And although in the days of Turoldus Abbot (1069-98) Churches and Chappels began to be built, (the said Turoldus distributing the Lands of the Monastery to those Knights who desired to serve God at home) yet still the Church of Peterburgh received the whole revenue until the time of Abbot Ernulfus Anno 1112 when there were assigned to the respective Ministers of Churches and Chappels, certain revenues for their maintenance, as due to their service; saving to the Church at Burg two parts of the predial Tythes of those Knights, and saving the burial of the said Knights, their wives and children in the church of Burgh, and also a certain portion of the Knights estates, for the maintenance of their wives and children: Saving also to the Church of Burgh from the Churches so built, certain pensions, which being imposed upon them in the first endowments, or collations by this Church, many of them have continued unto, and been paid in these our days to the Bishop, or Dean, or Chapter, as they were assigned by King Henry VIII."

In 1227, the eleventh year of Henry III., on the 17th day of March, a grant of the right to hold a Market at Kettering was made to the Abbot of Peterborough. The Charter translated runs thus:—

"Henry [by the grace of God King of England] &c. to the Archbishops Bishops &c. Greeting Be it known unto you that we have granted and by this present Charter have confirmed

---

[1] Et pretea. . . Ketinḡ cū eccᵃ et molīndino et cū ōibs ptiñciis suis. . . Cartae Antiquae—Rotul. D.D.

to the Abbot of the Borough of St. Peter and to the monks worshipping God in that place that they may have a market in their manor of Kettering every seventh day on Friday: And that they may have in the Borough of St. Peter one fair every year of eight days lasting, namely from the second Lord's Day after Quadragesima throughout the eight days following. So nevertheless in such manner that the said market and fair may not be injurious to the neighbouring markets and fairs. Wherefore we will and firmly direct that the said Abbot and the Monks aforementioned may have and hold the aforesaid market and fair in the aforementioned places for ever rightly, prosperously and in peace, openly and quietly with all the liberties and customs appertaining to a market of this kind and to a fair of this description as is aforesaid."

A further reference to Kettering Church is made during the abbacy of Robert de Lindsay (1214-1222), for it is stated that "he almost finished the Chapel at Kettering."

In 1225 there appears in the Lincoln Registers the first entry of an incumbent of Kettering Church—Ranulph de Ferrariis to wit—so that the "chapel" was evidently finished not long after Abbot Robert's death.

Walter de St. Edmunds signalised his abbacy (1233-46), so far as Kettering was concerned, by erecting there "a noble hall[1] faced with stone, a new sheepfold, and a new cowshed." It would appear from the "Chronicon Petroburgense"[2] that there was some mystery connected with the death of the fourth incumbent Emmanuel de Sauro, for it is recorded that, "In the year of our Lord 1284, at the instance of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Lincoln, Lord John of Kirkeby, then Chancellor of our Lord the King, and of others, Master [Magister] Roger de Rothewelle Chancellor of the Archbishop of Canterbury was presented to the church of Ketering, which had become vacant by the death of Emmanuel de Sauro. And as certain information of his death had not then been obtained, in order to avoid all fear of danger which might arise by any chance in time to come on account of the said presentation the said Master Roger gave to the Lord Abbot and the Convent (of Burg) on the second of the kalends of September in the year of grace 1284 a certain undertaking and indemnity against any damages or losses which they

[1] In all probability this Hall stood on the site of the present Manor House. Bridges says: "Mr. Sawyer's house, in which are old stone window frames, was formerly the abbot's hall." [2] Camden Society Series.

might chance to incur in lapse of time by any persons acting in the stead, in the name or on behalf of the said Emmanuel, somewhile Rector as before mentioned of the said Church, under whatever pretence or occasion with regard to the said presentation made to him."

So far as is known, Emmanuel de Sauro never again appeared in Kettering, and how and when he died is to this day a mystery—a mystery which makes one wish to know more about him.

In the same Chronicle there is the following account of an Abbot's Court held here in 1291:—"On the day of SS. Gervase and Prothasius in the year of our Lord 1291 at Ketering Robert Basset of Ryston son and heir of Robert Basset did homage and fealty to Lord Richard de London Abbot of Burg for the tenement which he holds of him in Yrlingburg, in the presence of Master Robert de Sceffeud then Seneschal of Burg, of the Lords John de Cambrey and Ade de Clipstone and many other monks (monachorum). This fief is the Avenel fief."

In MSS. of the fourteenth century, in an account[1] of the "taxation of the spiritual and temporal goods of the Abbot and Convent of the Burg of Holy Peter being under the collectorship of the Abbot and Convent of Oseneye," are the following items:—

Pensions in Kettering	xl^{s} decima iiij^{s}
Temporalities in Kettering	xxvj^{li} xj^{s} ix^{d}

In the same MSS. (fos. 69 and 70) is also the following statement of the returns[2] from this manor:—

"Keteringg.

Sum of all the rents of farms and customs of the term of Christmas with the term of St. Martin	x^{li} xv^{s} iij^{d} ob.
Sum of the same of the term of Easter with the term of Purification	xix^{li} xiiij^{s} vj^{d} ob. q^{a}
Sum of the same of the term of St. John the Baptist	vj^{li} xiij^{s} j^{d}
Sum of the same of the term of St. Michael	xxxjx^{li} ix^{s} ix^{d} ob.
Sum total for the year ...	lxxvj^{li} xij^{s} viij^{s} ob. q^{a}."

[1] Cott. MS. Vesp. E. 22 f 60 b. The "taxation" is dated 1291, but the MS. is written in the hand of the time of Edward II. or III.

[2] A note in Vesp. E. 21 f. 17 c., says the return is of the time of Abbot Godfrey.

A little later fuller information as to the nature of these returns is found for in 15 Edward II., an "extent of the manors and all temporal goods of the Abbey of Peterborough from the time of the death of Lord Godfrey lately Abbot of the aforesaid place" was made by sworn jurors. In the particulars of this inquiry, which are printed in Joseph Sparke's "Historiae Anglicanae Scriptores Varii" (1723), mention is made of Kettering. Amongst other things the assessors say that "there is at Keteringe one capital messuage with two gardens and one fishpond which are worth 6s. 8d. a year. Also a dovecot worth 4s. a year. Also two mills of which one is water supplied by the said fishpond, the other wind. There is also there a market on Friday the tolls of which are worth 16s. a year. And there are there in the Lordship 300 acres of arable land which are worth 100s. a year at 4d. per acre. Also 16½ acres of meadow worth 33s. a year at 2s. an acre. There is also some private pasture worth 3s. 4d. a year. And other pasture common land worth 4s. a year. And there are there 40 customary tenants who hold amongst them 34 virgates and pay for each virgate at the seasons of Christmas and Easter 12d. And for each virgate work (shall be done for the Lord) two days a week with one man and if not so done ½d. shall be paid to the Lord for each day's work. And besides this all the tenants must in each year turn up, clean, plough, and sow with the Lord's corn 200 acres of the aforesaid land, and harrow, hoe, reap, gather, bind, and carry home (the corn). The aid of the customary tenants at the feast of St. Michael is £14 6s. 8d., and the revenue from the 6 cottars before the said feast 17s. 1½d."

Gunton relates that Richard Ashton during his abbacy (1438-71) granted several corodies, amongst them being one to "John Delaber, Bishop of St. David's, who was much affected towards this monastery, and for bestowing upon them his Mitre, Cross, Dalmaticks, Sandals, Sabbatines, Gloves, and Mass Book, he received a Corrody,[1] which he might take at his own choice, either at Peterburgh, or at the Abbots Mannor of Eyebury, with a yearly pension of 32*l.* to be received during his life out of the Abbot's

[1] Blackstone says that "In ancient times the Crown had a right to a *corody* out of every bishopric; that is, the right to send one of the royal chaplains to be maintained by the bishop, or to have a pension allowed him till the bishop promoted him to a benefice." The instance above given is, therefore, perhaps hardly a *corody* in the strict sense of the word.

Mannor of Kettering, in consideration of a great sum of Money which the Abby had borrowed of him, and he forgave it."

Gunton also records the following curious incident in the career of Abbot William Ramsay (Ashton's successor):—"Abbot William in his ninth year, Anno 1480, having committed an oversight in releasing a Felon, who having stollen a piece of Cloth at Ketering, and some other things, was for that Felony committed to the Gaol at Peterburgh, where the Felon secretly bribed Abbot William with forty shillings, and he quietly dismissed him: for which dismission Abbot William himself was indicted at the Sessions before John Catesby and Guido Walston, Justices of the Peace, and being found guilty, was forced to put in security of six sufficient men for his good Behaviour!"

In 1515, in a rent roll of the profits of Kettering Manor, among other particulars mention is made of two mills, a watermill and an horsemill, of which the yearly farm was £8 13s. 4d., a windmill newly erected let to farm at £1 6s. 8d., and £1 for the rent of two ovens. The manor was then let at £26 13s. 4d.,[1] but the Valor Ecclesiastus of 26 Henry VIII. gives the returns from Keteryng at £97 8s. 9¾d.

In 1540 came the Surrender of the Abbey of Peterborough and its possessions into the hands of the King. Gunton states that "Of such Lands as the Abby was at this time in full tenure and possession of, King Henry made a tripartite kind of division, assuming a third to himself, confirming another third upon the Bishop, and the rest upon the Dean and Chapter. Those which King Henry took to himself, being surrendered unto him, were then let out unto Tenants at a yearly rent." Amongst the estates so let was "Kettering-cum-Pightesley with the Advowsons of the Rectories there, in the Queen's hand for 111l. 3s. 4d. ob. q. dimid."

Whether Gunton is correct or not as to the foregoing item, the Manor did not long remain in the hands of the Crown for, in the 35th year of his reign, Henry VIII. granted[2] to his "beloved William Parre knight Lord Parre de Horton and his heirs in tail male all our lordships and manors of Ketteryng Pycheley Cottyngham and Besburgh otherwise called Besborough with all and singular their rights members and appurtenances all together in our County of Northampton lately to the monastery

[1] Bridges' Northamptonshire.

[2] Pat. Ao. 35, Henry VIII. par. xiv. m. 20 (16).

of the Burg of Holy Peter otherwise called Peterburgh in the same county, but not long since dissolved, belonging and appertaining and parcel of the possessions of the same lately existing monastery. Also the advowsons gifts free dispositions and rights of patronage of the rectories and churches of Ketteryng and Cottyngham in our said County of Northampton lately to the monastery of the Burg of Holy Peter otherwise called Peterburgh belonging and appertaining. . . . . Also all the site and capital messuage of the manor of Ketteryng and all our farm ('firmam') of Ketteryng with the appurtenances . . And also all that our land and pasture called Hallefelde with its appurtenances in Ketteryng and all our warren of conies in Ketteryng . . And also our two watermills and our one windmill and our one horse-mill with their appurtenances now or late in the tenure or occupation of Henry Cave and Agnes his wife and Edmund Cave and William Cave or their assigns[1] situate and being in Ketteryng in our said County of Northampton, lately belonging and appertaining to the late Monastery of the Burg of Holy Peter and parcel of its possessions whilst existing."

"Sir William Parre," says Bridges, "the uncle of Queen Catherine, married Mary, daughter of Will Salisbury, who inherited Horton. Not long after the marriage (Henry's) this Sir William Parre being made Chamberlain to her Highness, was in the 35th year of Henry VIII. created Lord Parre of Horton; and the year after, the Queen being appointed General Regent of the Kingdom, during the King's absence in his intended expedition into France, the Lord Parre was nominated to be one of her assistants in council."

"He died on the 10th of September, 1546, leaving issue four daughters, Maud, the wife of Sir Ralph Lane,[2] Kt.; Anne, the wife of Sir John Digby, of Ketilby, Kt.; Elizabeth, the wife of Sir

---

[1] In the Augmentation Office Records, amongst the Conventual Leases, is one (No. 117), to Henry Cave, of Ketȳnge, miller, and Agnes, his wife, Edmund Cave and William Cave also of Ketȳnge from the Abbot (John) and Convent of Peterborough, of two watermills (under one roof), one windmill, and a horse-mill, with the pools and fisheries thereunto belonging. The Lease is for 21 years at a £10 rent, half at Easter and half at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel. If the rent is at any time one month in arrear the Abbot may re-enter. The Caves are to keep the mills, &c., in repair at their own cost. The lease bears date 8 Dec, 20 Hen. VIII.

[2] The eldest son of William Lane, Esq., of Orlingbury.

Nicholas Woodhull, Kt.; and Mary, the wife of Sir Thomas Tresham,[1] Kt." His wife, who survived him, died on 10th of July, 1555.

Both "Sir William Par Knight Lord Par of Horton" and "Marie Dowghter and coheires of John[2] Salsbire esquier" were buried in Horton Church, where there is an altar tomb with their recumbent effigies.

After the death of William Lord Parr without male issue the Manor again became vested in the Crowne and was in 2 Elizabeth [3] granted to William Garrard and others. An annual rent of £10 2s. $0\frac{3}{4}$d. payable out of the Manor was reserved to the Crown by the grant, but in 4 Elizabeth the grant was surrendered by the grantees and cancelled.

About the middle of the sixteenth century Leland wrote his famous Itinerary, and he thus quaintly refers to the Kettering of that period: "Thens [from Multon Parke] by Champayne Ground, bering good Grasse and Corne, a ix Miles to Ketering, a pratie Market Toune. I rode over a Bridge of Tymbre or I cam to Ketering by a Quarter of a Mile under this bridge rennith a little streame cumming almost originally from a Village . . . called . . . whereof the Water takith Name. And a little beyond I rode over another bridge of Tymbre, wher rennith a Broke, bering the name of Skerford Village, a v miles of from whens it cummith, and this Water rennith under the Roote of Hilling Ground that the Toune stondeth of. A little beyond the Toune of Ketering as I went toward Gadington, I passid over a Broke, that cummith from Arthingworth a vj Miles of; so that bothe sides of Ketering be welle waterid. The Confluence of these 3 brokes is a little beneth Ketering in the Meadows."

Camden, writing a little later, speaks of Kettering as "a market town of considerable resort," so that it was beginning to make its mark in the countryside.

In 28 Elizabeth, the Queen granted to Sir Christopher Hatton and his heirs "All that our pasture called haselfeilde with its appurtenances and all our lands tenements and hereditaments called or known by the name or names of haselfeild with its

---

[1] The grandfather of Sir Thomas Tresham, the Builder of the Triangular Lodge, &c.

[2] The quotation is from the inscription on the tomb which is in the chancel and John is evidently an error for William.

[3] Pat. Rol. 2 Eliz. part 13.

appurtenances situate lying and being within the lordship of Kettering in our County of Northampton. And all the site of our manor of Kettering with its appurtenances and all houses . . . within the aforesaid site of the aforesaid manor . . . And all those the 'demeane' lands in the said manor of the annual rental of £27 6*s.* 8*d.* . . . And all that our warren of conies . . . And which premises lately belonging to the monastery of the Burg of Holy Peter and now being in our hands by reason of the death of Willaim Lord Parre late of Horton were heretofore leased to John Lane gentleman by an Indenture, under the conventual seal of the said late Monastery, bearing date the 20th day of October in the 20th year of the reign of the late King Henry VIII. for the term of 80 years of which a certain term of years have yet to run. And all those our two closes of land or pasture in Kettering one of which was lately in the occupation of Henry Drewry and the other called the Parke was lately in the occupation of Richard Alderman. Which lastly mentioned premises now in our hands . . . were likewise leased to John Lane by an Indenture, under the Conventual seal, bearing date the 10th day of December in the 26th year of the reign of Henry VIII. for the term of 80 years."

In 34 Elizabeth (1592), the market tolls and rights, the profits of the common Bakehouse and also all the annual returns within the manor of Kettering called "eleven dussens"[1] and the profits of the same were leased by the Crown to Peter Cawston gentleman for the term of 21 years at the annual rent of 24s. 4d., but, as these rights had been granted by letters patent for 21 years to Edward Depup[2] (or Depup*per*) on the 24th June in 24 Elizabeth, Cawston's term was not to begin to run until the feast of St. Michael the Archangel in 1603.[3]

In 1587, from a survey then taken, the manor of Kettering was found to consist of 619 acres 2 roods; was let at xxx*l.* yearly, and was in the occupation of . . . Bacon and his wife late the wife of . . . Lane.[4]

Sir Christopher Hatton died on 20th November, 1591, at Hatton

---

[1] This word "dussens" is equivalent to "decenna" or "tything."

[2] Possibly the Secretary to Watsons of Rockingham, *vide* Rockingham Castle and the Watsons, pp. 27 and 146.

[3] Patent Rolls, 34 Eliz. par. 11, m. 17.

[4] Bridges' Northamptonshire. In the Add. MS. (20085, p. 5) among a list of persons in the County of Northampton contributing to the Crown (temp. Elizabeth, no date) is the name of "Elyzabethe Lane of Ketteringe—x$^{li.}$"

House, in the parish of St. Andrew's, Holborn, London.[1] He had no issue, but left as his heir Sir William Hatton, or Newport, knight, son and heir of John Newport and Dorothy his wife, sister of Sir Christopher, who on 3 May 38 Elizabeth in consideration of 4000 marks sold the site of the manor and demesne and other lands at Kettering to Edmund Sawyer of that place.[2]

On 31 August 36 Elizabeth[3] there was a grant from the Crown to William and Francis Tate, esquires, for the term of 21 years of what must have been an annual rent of £26 6s. 8d., issuing out of the site of the manor of Kettering. In 43 Elizabeth, Bridges says: "the premises were in the hands of Sir Edward Montague, who then settled on his second son Henry, in marriage with Catherine, daughter of Sir Francis Spencer, a term of years in the site of the manor place of Kettering, in a pasture called Hallfield, the warren within the manor, and in two closes called the park, granted formerly by the abbat and convent of Peterborough to John Lane."

Soon after this, in order apparently to perfect his title, Edmund Sawyer obtained a grant from the Crown[4] of the Hallfield, the site of the manor, the warren, and the "demeane" lands being of the annual value of £27 6s. 8d., and also two closes of land, one in Henry Drewrie's occupation; the other called the Park lately occupied by Richard Alderman, and of the annual value of £2 13s. 4d. The grant is to Edmund Sawyer and his heirs to hold of the Crown "by military service, namely by the service of a hundredth part of a knight's fee," and Lane's term of years is not mentioned. There is, however, reserved from the grant "All the residue of the said manor of Kettering of the annual value of £76 7s. 10½d."

In 14 James I.[5] there is another grant relating to the site of the manor and lands and tenements in Kettering. By this grant, after reciting the lease for 21 years to the Tates, already mentioned, the King gives what appears to be an annual rent of £26 6s. 8d. issuing out of these premises to his beloved and faithful subjects, Nathaniel Rich and Robert Hatton, of London, esquires. At this time, or at any rate at the time of his death in 1630, Edmund Sawyer was undoubtedly possessed of the site of the manor and other premises

---

[1] Escheat 34 Eliz. p., 1, No. 82.
[2] Duke of Buccleuch's MS.
[3] Pat. Rol. 37 Eliz. pars. 18, m. 19.
[4] Pat. Rol. 45 Eliz. part 1, m. 4.
[5] Pat. Rol. 14 Jac. I., part 22, No. 11.

included in his grant from the Crown, and it is consequently difficult to explain the why and wherefore of the grants of 37 Elizabeth to the Tates, and of 14 James I. to Rich and Hatton, except on the assumption that they referred to premises which had been divided from the old site of the manor, were not included in Sawyer's grant, and were part of "the residue" reserved.

What is commonly known as "the manor" had consequently at this time and for many years previous become detached from the "site." The latter had been granted away as just mentioned, but the former remained in the hands of the Crown until 15th June in the 22nd year of James I., when the King demised the manor of Kettering together with vast quantities of other property to Sir Henry Hobart, Sir James Fullerton, Sir John Walter, and Sir Thomas Trevor for the term of 99 years in trust for Charles (then Prince of Wales).

To return, however, to the town history.

At the commencement of the seventeenth century there was a dispute as to the commonable rights of the Kettering Copyhold Tenants of the King on the Links, and also as to the killing of conies at the Warren, but in the end the matter appears to have been satisfactorily settled by arbitration.[1]

The implication in 1605 of Francis Tresham, of Rushton, in the Gunpowder Plot, and the subsequent forfeiture of his estates, doubtless furnished a topic of conversation to the good people of Kettering for many a year.

In 1624 there was recognised communication between London and this town, for it is stated in a letter of that year that the "Kettering carrier leaves London every Wednesday."

In a letter dated 24th March, 1628-9, and to be found amongst the State Papers, the first reference is made to the old Sessions House which stood on the Market Hill, it being stated that the late Earl of Westmoreland "to his greate charge builded a very faire sessions house at Kettering and the towne is accomodate for the receite of a greater concourse then usially meetes at a winter sessions five hundreds only appeering at each sessions, and the most of those for whose ease my Lo: drew the sessions thither, can return to ther owne houses the same night after they have done the siruis, whear-as when that session was at Northampton, they weare inforced to lie ther two nights at charges."

---

[1] The proceedings are printed *post*.

Musters of the Eastern Division of the County were held at Oundle on the 7th and at Kettering on the 10th July, 1634. "Both the ffoote Companies" were found to be "well and compleatlie furnished," but the "sufficiencies" of the horse could not be judged "through the absence of the Captaine and his Officers."

In 1638, the imposition of the Ship-money tax seems to have been resisted at Kettering by Francis Sawyer. The incident is recorded in the following certificate, which was furnished by the Kettering Constables :—

"We whose names are hereunder written doe Certiffie That whereas S^{r} John Hanbury k^{t} high sheriffe of the County of Northton by his warrant directed to William Drury and William Carter, for the Collecting and Leuyeing of his Ma$^{t's}$ shipp money in the Towne of Kettering in the said County where we are Constables w^{ch} warrant the said Drury and Carter shewed unto us before they went to distrayne and by virtue thereof we did goe alonge with them to see the king's peace kept upon the makeing any distresse. And Comeing to the house of one M^{r} ffrancis Sawyer they demanded of him the some of 16s. 1d. imposed upon him towards his Ma$^{t's}$ ship money, whose answer was that he would pay it when he had it. Then Carter desired him to sett downe his tyme, and he said when he had money he would pay it. But Carter Replyed that, that was noe answere, he must distraine, whereupon, Carter laid his hands upon the Bridle of his horse (w^{ch} was tyed by M^{r} Sawyer) to distraine him, then M^{r} Sawyer strikeing with both hands with a staffe at Carter, one of us stept to him and catched at the staffe w^{ch} something brake the blous, but it did hitt Carter, thereupon we called upon him to keep the king's peace but M^{r} Sawyer would not regard us, but while we were Rescueinge Carter, M^{r} Sawyer and his wife fell upon the said Drury and did beate him and both broake his head and bruised his Armes drawing bloud in severall places. And M^{r} Sawyer's two men and a mayde came one wth a spitt and the other with Staves, but we did not see them strike, for we had enough to doe to Looke to our selves. And M^{r} Sawyer said you Rogues get you of my grounds. But neither before nor in the tyme of this fray, did M^{r} Sawyer ever demand to se the warrant whereby they distrayned his horse, untill afterwards they were gon out into the streete, and then he said lett me see your warrant and I will pay you the money if your authority be sufficient, and if I haue not soe much money I will borrow it of my

neighbour. This is the truth of what we heard and did see w^{ch} we are ready to iustifie. Wittnes our hands the 6th daie of September, Anno dñi 1638,

"Roger Booth, Samuel Linell."

On the 16th September the Council ordered Henry Middleton, sergeant-at-arms, to bring before the Lords Francis Sawyer, of Kettering. On the 29th the Attorney-General, by virtue of an order of the King in Council, was to examine Francis Sawyer and to consider his answer, and was to send for and examine Drury and Carter, and take such course as he might think fit. As a result Sawyer having given a bond[1] in £100 to attend the Council upon six days' notice, after examination, was to be discharged.

A few months later there is a petition to the Privy Council from William Drewry in which he mentions the distraint and the beating and dangerously wounding of himself and Carter, and further goes on to say "that he and Carter to their great charge in Michãs Tearme last, were sent for by warrant from his Ma$^{t's}$ Attorney generall to informe ag^{t} the said M^{r} Sawyer who was formerly sent for by the board to answer the premisses. In tender consideracõn whereof the premisses considered, and for that your petitioner hath beene lately arrested by the said M^{r} Sawyer, and as yet had noe satisfacion for his woundings and damage herein, he most humbly prayeth your Lop^{s} to take such order in the premisses, as to your Lo^{ps} grave wisdomes shall seem meete.

"And your poore peticõner (as in duty bound) shall dayly pray for your Lo$^{p's}$ in all health and happines long to continue."

The petition is endorsed as follows: "At the Inner Starr Chamb the 13th of Feb., 1638. There Lo$^{pps.}$ doe referre this Peticon to the consideracõn of his Mat^{ies} Attorney gnãll Praying and requiring him to take Order for the Peticon^{rs} reliefe, or otherwise to informe the Board how this business stands."

This is the last reference to the incident in the State Papers, and how the unfortunate Drewry fared is not known.

The Sawyers at this time, and indeed during the whole of the seventeenth century, were one of the chief families in the town, and on December 11th, 1638, the rights of the King to "game of all sorts within the Towne and feilds of Kettering and other places thereunto adioyning" being abused, Henry Earl of Holland em-

[1] Samuel Moon, of Northampton, minister, joined in this bond.

powered Edward Sawyer, who seems to have been a Justice of the Peace, to search within the town "and five miles Compasse round about, for the finding out of all such dogges netts bowes crossebowes gunnes and other engyns as shall belong to any such offenders or suspected persons and the same to take into his custody . . . untill . . . further directions" and also to further certify the names of those deserving punishment.

The Court of Quarter Sessions was held here on January 26th, 1635-36 and also on January 8th, 1639-40. On the latter occasion the Grand Jury for the Sessions presented a petition to the Bench complaining of the "greate and unsupportable greivance lyinge uppon us and the Cuntrey, under the name of shipp money to be raysed for the provideinge of Shipps, our goods and theirs beinge forceablye taken and deteyned from us. Our humble petition is that some redress may be by yo^{u} obteyned, for it is not only our owne, but the generall complainte of the Cuntrey, and wee nor they are not well able to beare the burden thereof, and therefore crave that this may be in such sorte by yo^{u} represented as yow in yo^{r} wisdomes shall therein think fittinge."

The petition appears to have offended the powers that were, for on March 6th following "Richard Knighton of Irthlingborough foreman of the said Grand Jury was examined and admitted he agreed to the petition but who penned it he knew not."

In August, 1640, there was an important meeting of the clergy held here. In a letter dated August 26th, 1640,[1] and written by one Francis Hill to Sir John Lambe, Hill says: "I found none of the clergy to-day at Kettering, the assembly of the brethren was yesterday. Mr. Baxter, my host at the 'Swan,' said there were about twenty-seven of the company whereof twenty-one dined at his house. I obtained the company of one Mr. Francis Sawyer, brother to a justice of the peace of that town, to whom I made known that my coming was to have met that company of ministers and it did not a little grieve me that I had summons for a wrong day; nevertheless if I could but know what they had concluded I should not think my labour lost. Whereupon he offered to inform me what he could. The meeting of these ministers was to examine the oath[2] in the late Book of Canons, and they had six or seven arguments against it in writing, which came from London

[1] State Papers, Dom. Series.

[2] Known as the Etcetera Oath.

ministers; and one Mr. Whittaker of Stretton had certain arguments besides, which likewise were examined and proved. The arguments against the oath, as Mr. Sawyer related them were: *1.* If they yield to take this oath now it will be a precedent and a leading cause for other such oaths hereafter. *2.* The oath is altogether illegal and therefore they are not bound to take it. *3.* The oath is against the King's supremacy, because it binds the party never to consent to the altering of the church discipline; and then in case the King or his successors shall ever intend to alter the discipline they are bound not to obey him. They concluded never to yield to take the oath, but rather to lose their livings. They had also a new book out of Scotland[1] read amongst them. Mr. Sawyer said these were some of its particulars: Complained of broken promises of the King . . . and his war against them, and in it they promised to hurt no man woman or child only two men they would have viz. his Grace of Canterbury and my Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.[2] . . Mr. Harris was one of those present. P.S.—If my memory fails me not Mr. Francis Sawyer said his brother the justice had the Scotch book."

The next day Sir John Lambe wrote Archbishop Laud as to the meeting, and says, "I must refer to you what is fit to be done with these assemblers," but there is no further reference to the matter in the State Papers.

Soon after this the Great Civil War broke out, and although Northamptonshire played an important part in it, Kettering, being somewhat out of the route of the opposing armies, does not seem to have suffered as did many neighbouring towns. It was at one time a rendezvous for the Royalists, for in "Mercurius Aulicus" for May 19th, 1643, it is stated that "Colonel Hastings having skirmished about Northampton thence the Colonel marched to his rendezvous at Kettering, his troopers disarming divers known malignants by the way as far as Wellingborough (which had been plundered by the rebels[3]) and all the towns beyond which had been

---

[1] "The Intention of the Scots."

[2] Archbishop Laud and the Earl of Strafford respectively.

[3] This probably refers to the plundering of the town by the Roundheads in December, 1642, and in which Captains John Sawyer and Francis Sawyer took part. Captain John Sawyer, "a most godly and eminent man to the Puritan cause, and a J.P. for the county who came to persuade the people to be quiet," was shot whilst entering the town, and no doubt his death was partly the cause of the mercilessness with which his comrades soon after ransacked the place.

loyal to his Majesty they spared." The troop did not remain in Kettering, but at once marched away.

An Independent Regiment of Roundheads was formed in this district in June, 1643, and seems to have terrorised the neighbourhood. Captained by John Wollaston, of Barnwell, and supposed to have been patronised by Sir Gilbert Pickering, of Titchmarsh, the troop used to go and plunder and steal in all directions, and it is quite possible Kettering may have suffered from their depredations unless, indeed, they considered it a Puritan town, and protected by the Roundheads at Rockingham Castle. It is probable, indeed, that during the greater part of the time occupied by the war the Parliamentarians were in force in this neighbourhood, and Clarendon relates that as early as September 10th, 1642, "they took prisoner the Lord Montague of Boughton, at his house in Northamptonshire, a person of great reverence, being above four score years of age and of unblemished reputation for declaring himself unsatisfied with their disobedient and undutiful proceedings against the King and more especially their ordinance for the Militia, and his lordship was committed to the Tower a close prisoner; and although he was afterwards remitted to more air (his lodging in the Savoy) he continued a prisoner to his death June 15, 1644," at the age of eighty-two years.

A curiously conducted election took place here in 1655, of the procedure at which Bridges, quoting from *Lee's Collections*, gives the following account :—

"Sir *Gilbert Pickering* was chosen, in 1655, one of the six knights of the shire, whom the Protector *Cromwell* and his council directed to be returned for this county (Northamptonshire). The manner of his election is preserved to us by an eye-witness of it. The freeholders, by the appointment of Major General *Butler*, were assembled on *Kettering*-heath; and the Sheriff having read the writ, the Major named himself and the five following Gentlemen, Sir *Gilbert Pickering*, Mr. *Crew* the younger, the Lord *Cleypole*, *James Langham*, Esq, and Major *Blake*. Having first named Sir *Gilbert*,

---

Another reference in the State Papers possibly refers to a son of this Capt. John Sawyer. It is as follows :—"Oct. 28, 1656. Joseph Sawyer son of John Sawyer late of Kettering being imprisoned with other apprentices in the Tower about the time of the late insurrection and released on security for good behaviour being satisfied of his conformity to the present Government Sir John Barkstead is to deliver up his bond to be cancelled." An Edmund Sawyer was in arms for the King in 1643-4.

he rode round the heath with a party of his own, crying a *Pickering,* a *Pickering,* and coming to the Sheriff ordered him to set him down as duly elected. The other five were successively returned in the same manner. At the same time Colonel *Benson* with a large body of electors was on the heath, and proposed, without any notice being taken of his nomination, Mr. *Knightley,* and other considerable Gentlemen of the county."

Amongst the Royalist Composition Papers of the year 1646 is one relating to Sir Lewis Watson, of Rockingham, from which it appears that he was then seized of "four parts in tenn parts to be deuided of the Mannor of Ketterine and the liberty of ffairs and Marketts there, and other Lands and Hereditam^t^ in Ketteringe . . ." The document goes on, "The Compounder is seized thereof as of a ffranckten^te^ for tearme of his life, the remainder to Edward Watson his sonne in taile, with other remainders ouer, the remainder in ffee being to the said Edward the sonne and his heirs." The total fine paid by Sir Lewis Watson on all his estates, of which the foregoing was a small portion, appears to have been £4,312.

Sir Lewis Watson was in 1644 created Lord Rockingham, and died in 1652, leaving Edward Lord Rockingham his heir.

By letters patent dated July, 1661, Charles II. granted to Edward Lord Rockingham and his heirs the right to hold a fair for the buying and selling of horses at Kettering on the Thursday next before Easter, in conjunction with an ancient fair which had theretofore been held on that day, and whereof the said Lord Rockingham was seized. And also the right to hold two other fairs there in each year, to wit, one of them on the Thursday next preceding the feast of St. Michael the Archangel and the other on the Thursday next preceding the feast of St. Thomas the Apostle. The grant also gave Lord Rockingham power to levy all usual tolls, &c., and also to hold at each fair a "Pie Powder" or "Dusty foot" Court, whereat all disputes arising in connection with the fairs were to be settled.[1]

---

[1] The tolls, &c., in connection with these fairs and also all market rights connected with the Friday market, of which Lord Rockingham was possessed at the time of this grant, remained the property of the Watson family until 1881, when the Kettering Local Board purchased from G. L. Watson, Esq., all his interest in the fairs and markets.

In 1832 placards were issued by George Gill, "Tenant for the Tolls of Markets Fairs &c.," announcing that Lord Sondes (Lewis Richard) had

During these years there had been several changes in the ownership of the Manor—to which it is necessary to recur. In 1625, James I. had, as already mentioned, demised the Manor of Kettering to Trustees in trust for his son Charles, and three years later, on May 16th, 1628, the surviving trustees assigned the premises for the term unexpired to William Williams, Robert Mitchell, Walter Marks, and Robert Marsh, Citizens of London, reserving to themselves a yearly rent of £66 7s. 10½d. Shortly after Charles I., by letters patent on June 15th, in the fourth year of his reign, at the nomination of the Mayor, Commonalty, and Citizens of London, granted the inheritance and reversion of the said Manor to Edward Ditchfield, John Highlord, Humfrey Clarke, Francis Mosse, and their heirs, Citizens of London, and confirmed the assignment to William Williams and others, which formed part of the same transaction. The next year, on the 20th June, there was a further grant of part of the premises which had been surrendered owing to the patentees not being fully estated in them. The King in both grants, however, reserved to himself and his successors the rent of £66 7s. 10½d., which was to be paid by the grantees as soon as the term of 99 years had expired. Both the assignment and grants appear to have been made as part security for £349,887 borrowed by Charles from the City of London, and the Citizens named acted as trustees.

Kettering is thus referred to in the grant of 4 Charles I.: "Also all that our Manor of Ketteringe in our aforesaid County of Northampton, with its rights, members, and appurtenances. . . . And also all those our rents of as well the free as the customary tenants of the same Manor . . amounting to £64 1s. 4½d. per annum. Also all those Shops Houses and Cottages and all those our closes of meadow and pasture land with their appurtenances now or lately in the tenure of Edward Watson Knight or his assigns of the annual rent or value of 22s. 2d. Also all and every the profits stallages and tolls . . . of the markets held within the said Manor of Kettering. And all the profits of the common bakehouse there. And all those returns within the said Manor called 'a eleaven dozens' and all the profits of the same with their appurtenances the whole now or late in the tenure or occupation of Peter Cawston gentleman or his assigns and . . .

---

intimated his purpose to forego in future all market tolls on stock, sheep &c.—"Rockingham Castle and the Watso

of the annual value of 24s. 4d. Also all and singular the perquisites and profits of the Courts of the said Manor . . . valued at £45 7s. 3d. per annum which said Manor of Kettering and the said premises are of the clear annual rent or value of £111 15s. 1½d."

On May 14th, 1630, William Williams, Robert Mitchell, Walter Marks, and Robert Marshe assigned the residue of the term of 99 years in the manor to William Child, citizen and scrivener, of London, and Thomas Gardiner, subject to the fee-farm rent; while on June 28th, 1630, Edward Ditchfield, John Highlord, Humfrey Clarke, and Ffrancis Mosse, in consideration of £1,920 (which sum probably also included the consideration for the assignment of the lease), granted, bargained, sold, and confirmed the reversion of the Manor of Kettering unto John Child, of the Inner Temple, London, Esquire, and Daniell Britten, citizen and vintner of London, and their heirs, subject to the fee-farm rent of £66 7s. 10½d. payable to the Crown.[1]

In November, 1631, William Child and Thomas Gardiner assigned the residue of the term of 99 years to John Sawyer, Everard Sturges, Leonard Leveridge, Lawrence Maidwell, George Smith, Thomas ffreeman, William Peel, Henry Wyne, Robert Shepherd, and John Webb[2]; and on the 24th day of the same month John Child and Daniel Britten granted, bargained, and sold the reversion of the manor to Robert Breton, of Teton, Esquire; Valentine Goodman, of Blaston, gentleman; Thomas Hackney, citizen and vintner of London; Robert Bate, of Grafton, yeoman; Thomas Good, of Islip, yeoman; John Askew, jun., of Cranford, yeoman; Thomas ffinsett, of "Chelsey," yeoman; Thomas Keyston, of "Boughdon magna," yeoman; John Ladd, of Broughton, yeoman; and Robert How, of Warton, yeoman.[3] The consideration paid for the assignment and grant appears to have been £2,000, and the premises which were by these deeds divided into tenths apparently were held in trust for John Sawyer, of Kettering, esquire; ffrancis Sawyer and Edmond Hackney, of Kettering, gent.; henry Baker, Thomas Good, William Meadow, Christopher Cedie (Eadie?), Richard Wright, Edmond Drury and John Roe, of Kettering, yeomen.

---

[1] Close Rolls, 6 Car. I., Part 17, No. 21.

[2] "Rockingham Castle and the Watsons," p. 221.

[3] Close Rolls, 7 Charles I., Pt. 15, No. 5.

The Manor did not become vested in the ten Kettering men, however, without a good deal of bargaining, and an amusing account of the transaction is fortunately preserved in the Record Office, for amongst the Exchequer Bills of 7 Charles I., is one exhibited by Sir Lewis Watson against John Sawyer, Esq., ffrancis Sawyer, gent., Edward Hackney, Thomas Goode, Henry Baker, and others.[1] The bill sets out the Ditchfield grant and the William Williams assignment, and states that when it was known to the Kettering tenants that the King had sold the manor, and that it was again offered for sale, for "w^{ch} purpose Comisioners were appointed by the Maior. . . . . Thereupon diuers of the principall Copieholders there repaired to your Orator [Sir Lewis] and desired him both on his owne and theire behalfe to Contract for the purchase of the Mannor w^{th} the Comittee of the Cittie." To which he "condescended." To that end only, about Michas. 1628, Sir Lewis went up to London, where he met certain of the tenants and copyholders who had come up for the same purpose. The Complainant and his ancestors had been for long time "farmors to his Ma^{tie} and his p̃decessors of the faires and marketts w^{th} the profitts thereof and of the comon Backhouse and the rent or dutie called the Eleven dozens the same being then in your Orator's possession." Defendants not taking the bargain he made he was forced to his great charge and trouble to provide monies—£952 9s. 4d.—a moiety of the purchase-money. He wished the defendants to become his tenants, and agreed with them for £1,000 to make their fines certain, which agreement was reduced to writing. The defendants, however, refused to "satisfie the monies your Orator disbursed . . and having combined . . endeauored for theire own private ends to supplant your Orator in the purchase." "And to that end did give out and alledge that the fines of theire said coppieholds were certen and not arbitrarie or att least they could hold your Orator to such rates as had been formerly taken . . . Which when your Orator understood he was utterly discouraged to proceede in the purchase." Sir Lewis then says the defendants induced William Child, by giving him £100 and upwards more than Sir Lewis would have done, to purchase the term of years and reversion of the manor, and assign and grant them as already mentioned. He appears to have been asked to join in the contract for purchase "for a colorable shew of fare dealing," but he could not get the defendants, after the manor

[1] Exchequer Bills and Answers, Northton, No. 97, Mich. 7 Ch. I.

became vested in them, to convey the market, &c., to him, or to contract as to the fines of his copyhold property in Kettering, and he invoked the aid of the Court.

The defendants in their answer[1] admit that they were desirous of purchasing the Manor and so making their arbitrary fines certain, and that some of them went to London, met Sir Lewis, and concluded a bargain for the purchase at 32 years' purchase of the chief rent. Afterwards the Complainant did seem to sever himself by speeches from them and having it seemed a desire to get it to himself did put the Tenants, who returned to the country, off the bargain. On his return he said he had bought the Manor and on January 15th, 1628, he made an offer to the tenants "to take theire seuerall estates att a Rate or to make their ffynes certaine." An agreement was entered into by several, but it was broken by Sir Lewis. Some time afterwards a warrant came to the town in the name of Mr. Child and Thos. Gardiner, Esq., "to warne a Court there for them and in there names."

And "att the said Court Mr. Childe beinge there himselfe shewed forth his [deed ?] whereby he had purchased the Mannor of the saide Citty of London. And then made offer to sell the same to the Tennants of the saide towne." This offer was not at once taken, but with the consent of the tenants Edmund Hackney wrote a letter to the "p^{lts} Bayliff one Hugh Cave to acquainte him with Mr. Child's offerr and what they were about to doe and really to entreate him to ioyne with them in the purchase. And on the Messengers returne and the p^{lts} not [accepting ?] there motion then and not before, the Tenants of the said Mannor to the number of Tenn did fall to and make an agreement . . . with the said Mr. Child for the saide Mannor for the sume of Two Thowsand pounds . . . which money is all of itt by them since truely paide to the said Mr. Child." And he conveyed the lease and reversion to such persons as are before mentioned. If the complainant would have undergone "the like trouble charge and hazard as the Tenn Contractors did and would also have vndergone the Office of Bayliwick of the saide Mannor as other the said vndertakers agreed to doe by turne" they would have been glad for him to join in the purchase. They had endeavoured to meet him as regarded the market which he wished to buy, but his Bayliffe brought in a note of the "proffitts thereof amountinge to six pounds

[1] Exchequer Bills and Answers, Northton. 7 Charles I., No. 97.

a yeare which these def^ts^ knew to be vndervalued Thirty pounds a yeare att leaste." After they had bought the manor the Contractors out of respect to the Comp^lt^ reopened the negotiations, went to his house, and offered to sell him "the saide ffaire, marketts Bakehouse and other liberties and privilidges which before he had made offer to buy." Then the Contractors made it appear that those parcells and privileges were well worth £40 a year, "And there vppon they then to continue his love prised the same to him at Six hundred pounds wh^ch^ was but fifteene yeares purchase," and offered to become his Tenants thereunto for 21 years at £40 a year. But he refused the offer and refused to bid at all. The def^ts^ refuse to let him have the parcells unless he will pay their value and deny that he ought to have any benefit or profit from the said manor as he would not join in the purchase. As for his Copyhold lands the def^ts^ are willing that he should contract for them as the other tenants do.

The Decree in this action has not been found, but on May 7th, 1634, Robert Breton, Valentine Goodman and others, in performance of a trust reposed in them by John Sawyer, Francis Sawyer, Edmond Hackney and the several others, and in consideration of £425 paid to John Sawyer and others by Sir Lewis Watson, and at the nomination of Sir Lewis, bargained and sold to Sir Edward Watson and Edward Watson and their heirs "all the faires and marketts from tyme to tyme holden and to be holden within Kettering aforesaid with their appurtenances togeather with the Courts of Pie Powder and the perquisites and profitts of the same Courts and the stallage piccage tollage and all other customs belonging and alsoe all that the common Backhouse with the appurtenances," &c.[1]

It is to be presumed that the dispute was settled on the execution of this deed, the consideration for which is, it is to be noted, £175 less than that originally asked by the "Ten Contractors."

In the State Papers[2] of about the year 1632, there is a return relating to Kettering Manor, which sets forth that the rents from the free and customary tenants are £65 5s. 8½d.; from the cottages, £1 2s. 2d.; and Tolls, £1 4s. 4d. Total, £67 12s. 2½d. The return goes on to state that "The premises were some tyme parcell of the Monastery of Peterbrowe and Came to the Crowne againe after the

[1] Close Rolls, 9 Charles I., pt. 18, No. 6.

[2] State Papers. Domestic Series Charles I. (? 1632), Vol. 229, No. 104.

death of Wm. Lo: Parr. The Scite of the Manner and the milles are graunted a waie in ffee ffarme and noe parcell of this value. The Coppiehold are not devided from the ffreeholds uppon Record. But by the Coppie of a Survey the freehold seem to be but vj^{li} xiij^{s} ix^{d} ob. and the Coppie hold are lviij^{li} x^{s} xj^{d}. The Coppiehold are of inheritance finable att will. ffarme Rents there are but two parcells the first whereof was lately graunted to the Towne for the use of the Schole. And the other for ought appeareth out of Lease. The Bayliffe's ffee ys liij^{s} iiij^{d}. And the Steward's ffee yearly xl^{s}." The paper is headed "Of Lands assigned to ye Prince," and is indorsed "Landes to ye City of Lond (on)."

On December 3rd, Michaelmas term, 16 Charles II., there was heard before Sir Matthew Hale, Sir Christopher Turner, and Sir Richard Rainsford an action brought by Sir Jeffrey Palmer, Bart., Attorney-General, Lewis Palmer, Esq., and Jane, his wife, and Thomas Gorstelow, Gent., against Edward Lord Rockingham, Edmund Sawyer, William Good, William Billing, and John Drury, to recover the fee-farm rent of £66 7s. 10½d. The bill in the suit sets out the lease of the Manor for 99 years, its assignment to William Williams and others, and the reservation of the said rent, and states that Sir John Walter, Sir James Fullerton, Sir Thomas Trevor, Francis Lord Cottington, and Sir John Banks, the King's trustees by indenture dated 7th October, 13 Charles I., at the nomination of James, then duke of Richmond and Lenox, and in trust for him did assign unto the lord George Stuart and lord Bernard Stewart, their interest in the term of 99 years and in the said annual rent thereby reserved; and that such assignment was confirmed by letters patent on 16th October in the same year; and that the said duke and others in trust for him, and to whom the interest of the first lord George and Bernard was come by indenture, dated 24th July, 1652, assigned to Thomas Gorstelow and John Knight the said rent in trust for Sir Jeffry Palmer. The bill further sets out the grant of the reversion of the Manor to Ditchfield and others, and the reservation therefrom of the said rent, and states that Charles I. by letters patent in the 13th year of his reign did grant the said rent to the Duke of Richmond and his heirs, who, by indenture dated 24th July, 1652, granted the same to Sir Geoffrey Palmer and his heirs; and that by virtue thereof the said Sir Geoffrey became entitled to both the trust for the term of years and the inheritance of the said rent. Further that Sir Jeffry Palmer, by indenture tripartite, dated 18th June, 1654,

settled the same rent on Lewis Palmer, the plaintiff, and Jane, his wife, for life, with remainders to himself and his heirs; and that the said Manor for the term of years is, by "meane" assignments, come to Edward lord Rockingham and the other defendants, or some other persons in trust for them; and that the inheritance of the manor is by meane conveyances come to the defendants or some of them.[1] In answer to this plea Edward Lord Rockingham saith he claims an interest in six parts of the said manor, and is willing that the said quit rent should be paid; and Edmund Sawyer and others say the said manor of Kettering is, and has been for several years past, divided into ten several parts, and that they, the said Edmund Sawyer, William Good, William Billing, and John Drury, claim an interest in four parts of the same, and have an interest to each of them of and in a tenth part of the said manor, and that Wm. Billing claims a tenth part as guardian to his daughter Elizabeth Billing, a minor of the age of 13 years or thereabouts. And they all acknowledge the complainant's title to the said rent, and by the decree[2] the plaintiff recovers all arrears.

There were at this time, therefore, many distinct interests in the manor, and it is not easy to follow each stage of their descents. The history of the fee-farm rent of £66 7s. 10½d. may, however, soon be told. After the suit just referred to, and in which the right of the Palmers to the rent was established, the interest in the rent came through Lewis Palmer to Sir Geoffrey Palmer, of Carlton (his son), who on the 15th February, 1728, sold it to trustees in trust for John Duke of Montagu. The Duke died 6th July, 1749, leaving the Lady Isabella (who married, first, William Duke of Manchester, and then Edward Hussey, afterwards Lord Beaulieu) and the Lady Mary (who married George Earl of Cardigan, afterwards Duke of Montagu) his co-heiresses. The rent in question, however, eventually came to the Lady Mary, who dying on 1st May, 1775, left Elizabeth, wife of Henry Duke of Buccleuch, her heir—John Lord Brudenell, her son (created Lord Montagu of Boughton) having predeceased her. On the death of Elizabeth Duchess Dowager of Buccleuch and Queensberry, on 21st November, 1827,

---

[1] It would seem that the owners of the reversion of the Manor and of the residue of the term were always identical after the purchase by the "Ten Contractors."

[2] Exchequer Decrees and Orders, 16 to 21 Charles II., f. 46 b.

the interest in the rent came first to Walter Francis Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, who died on 16th April, 1884, and then to the Trustees of William Hy. Walter, the present Duke, and it has this year (1891), after an existence of some 265 years, been paid off and extinguished by the owners of the manor.[1]

Meanwhile the residue of the term of 99 years was granted in 1664 by Elizabeth Wine, administratrix of Thomas Wine and surviving trustee, to John Earl of Exeter, Obryan Viscount Cullen, Edward Griffin, Esq., Francis Lane, Esq., Abell Barker, Esq., Edward Palmer, Esq., Thomas Goode, of Islip, Gent., William Philbrigg, of Oundle, Gent., Humphrey Shepherd, of Wilbarston, Gent., in trust, reserving six parts in ten to Edward Lord Rockingham. In 1670 the remainder of the term was granted by Henry Wine (administrator of his father's goods not administered by Elizabeth Wine) to Sir Euseby Pelsant, Tanfield Mulsho, Edward Palmer, Matthew Johnson and six others, in trust as to six parts for Edward Lord Rockingham, and as to one-tenth each for Edmund Sawyer, William Good the younger, John Drury and John Fox.

Having gone thus far it is necessary to revert to the grant of 45 Elizabeth to Edmund Sawyer. This grant, as already stated, was of the Hallfield, the site of the manor, the warren, and the demesne lands, and also two closes, one of them called the Park, and as on the inquisition taken on the death of Edmund Sawyer, at Oundle, on 29th March, 7 Chas. I., it was found that he was seised in his lordship as of fee of and in the mansion in Kettering, in which he lived at the time of his death (19th September, 1631); of and in certain lands in the open fields belonging to the said mansion ; of and in the Hall meadow, the Park, the Hallfield, the warren, Cransley Holme, Broughton Holme, Rambs Holme, Flaggie Holme, and the Netherfield, all in the parish of Kettering, he doubtless retained all the lands granted him by the patent of Elizabeth.[2] Not only were they the property of the Sawyers at the time of the Inquisition, but all or nearly all of the lands were retained by them until the year 1720, when, together with an interest in two-tenths of the manor which they had acquired, the property was sold by the Sawyers to Francis Hawes, one of the Directors of the South Sea Company.

---

[1] Duke of Buccleuch's MS.

[2] Edmund Sawyer's heir was John Sawyer, who at the time of the inquisition was "aged" 30 years and over.

The year 1720 was that which witnessed the bursting of the South Sea Bubble, and if a legend, that the Sawyers were ruined by that Bubble, is to be credited, it is possible that they sold the Kettering estate to raise money to invest in the scheme.

In 1721 the estates of the directors of the Company, valued at £2,014,000, were confiscated for the benefit of the sufferers, and the Kettering estate purchased by Francis Hawes, as just mentioned, was accordingly put up for sale at the South Sea House on 4th December, 1723, and purchased by John Duke of Montagu, to whom it was bargained and sold on 30th July, 1724, by the Trustees appointed to wind up the South Sea Company.

By this purchase the Duke became possessed not only of the property so long held by the Sawyers, but also of two-tenths in the Manor which were sold with it.

In the Manorial Court roll for 21st October, 1724, the rents or "fines" then received were thus distributed:—

Mrs. Falkner,	one part	7li	5s	3½d
Mrs. Bass,	one part	7li	5s	3½d
Duke of Montagu,	two parts	14li	10s	7d
Lord Rockingham,	six parts	43li	11s	9d

Two years later Mrs. Falkner's part was paid to Mr. Hazelwood, and Mrs. Bass' to Mr. Jno. Spriggs,[1] while in 1728 the Duke of Montagu purchased the two odd tenth shares of both Mrs. Falkner and Mrs. Bass. The fine as to the former was between the Duke querent and Mary Ffaulkner, spinster, Charles Smith and Anne his wife, and John Jones and Elizabeth his wife deforciants;[2] while as to the latter it was between the Duke querent and Anne Bass, widow, and Charles White gentlemen, and Elizabeth his wife deforciants.[3] In both cases the consideration was £60.

The Duke of Montagu thus become possessed of the four-tenths of the Manor which have descended (in a manner similar to that already mentioned with regard to the now extinguished fee-farm rent of £66 7s. 10½d.) to the present Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry.

The other six-tenths have, too, remained in the Rockingham family, and are now vested in George Lewis Watson, Esq.

---

[1] "Rockingham Castle and the Watsons," p. 222.

[2] Feet of fines, Mich., 2 Geo. II.

[3] Feet of fines, Easter, 2 Geo. II.

Having now disposed of all the Manorial incidents, the town history can be returned to.

During the unusually hot and dry summer of 1665 what is now known as the Great Plague broke out, and although Kettering did not escape its ravages, the disease does not appear to have caused the mortality here that it did in many other places of similar size. The Kettering burial register distinguishes by a special mark—the letters "pl"—those who were supposed to have died of the plague, and it appears that between 18th July, 1665, when the first burial so marked took place, and May 20th in the following year, 80 persons were carried off by the scourge. The depôt for provisions during this period seems to have been in Goosepasture Lane (Gas Street), and in order to prevent contagion the money paid for the goods had to be placed in a square hollow, filled with water, in the centre of a huge stone. The stone is still in the possession of Mr. Eldred, and may once perhaps have formed the socket for a cross.

It is said that as a consequence of the severity of the plague at Rothwell, Rothwell market had to be held at Kettering, and that it was never afterwards held at Rothwell. It is also asserted that the water trough just mentioned was specially provided to prevent Rothwell people who visited Kettering spreading the disease. On the other hand, however, some assert that the plague was confined to the Gas Street portion of Kettering, that the people inhabiting that portion were kept there, and the stone was provided to prevent contagion when they paid their more fortunate fellow-townsmen for food.

In the "Travels of Cosmo the Third Grand Duke of Tuscany through England" in the year 1669, reference is made to "the castles of Towcester, Kettering, Oundle," but nowhere else is there a reference to a castle here, and the Duke is evidently in error on the point.

In 1678, the country was thoroughly alarmed by the supposed "Popish Plot" to assassinate the King and to massacre all Protestants, that any fire or other calamity which happened just then was laid at the doors of the Catholics, and it is not, therefore, surprising that a serious fire at Kettering in 1679 was attributed to Popish agency. An account of this fire is given at the end of a rare tract published in July, 1679, and which contains an account of a supposed Yorkist plot against the King's life. The "true Relation of a dreadful Fire at *Cottering* in *Northamptonshire*: with many other Circumstances," seems to have been added as an

afterthought, in order, perhaps, to give emphasis to the assertions made in the former part of the tract. The account, which is given as a "Postcript," runs as follows:—

"These are also to acquaint the Reader, that there has lately happened a great Fire at Cottering in Northamptonshire; the which lasted very vehement for the space of three or four hours, in which time the raped Flames consumed about Twenty (if not more) Houses: the Fire began upon a very strong substantial House, in which it is credibly reported that no Fire had been made that day, no candle lighted, therefore it is strongly conjectured to have been set on Fire by some Popish Agents, those Harbingers of ruine, whose contagious Nostrils belch quotidian Flames. But the truth of its being set on Fire as yet remaineth in dispute."[1]

The next few years were unquiet times, and the following extract from a Record of Quarter Sessions for the year 1687 throws an interesting light on the summary means then adopted of upholding law and order:—"Paschae 1687. Upon the humble petition of Mr. John Haslewood of Kettering in this County Woollen Draper, shewing that he being one of the constables of the Parish of Kettering, and a Hue and Cry coming to his hand to apprehend and seize three persons who had committed a Robbery upon the Lady Boughton's Coach upon Hillmorton Heath in the County of Warwicke, and that he suspecting three persons at that time at the Swan Inn in Kettering, tooke with him severall of his neighbours, and went to seize them in the Inn, but before he could get thither they had escaped, whereupon he tooke his horse and pursued them, and overtaking them ventured his life in an Engagement with them wherein his horse (being of the value of ten pounds) was killed under him, and a case of pistolls of the value of fforty shillings taken from him, after which he procured a fresh horse and pursued, and engaged them againe till one of the said theeves was killed, and afterwards pursued the other two till his horse was tired and they escaped, who thereupon humbly prayed this court to find out some means to recompense him for his said loss and damages. It is therefore ordered that the said Mr. John Haslewood be allowed the summe of Ten Pounds to recompense him for his said loss; and

[1] A copy of the tract may be seen in Dash's copy of Bridges' Northamptonshire, at the British Museum.

that the Treasurers for this County or one of them do pay him the same at the next Sessions." [1]

From the *Magna Britannica*, published about 1700, a glimpse of the Kettering of those days is obtained, for it is stated that:—

"*Kettering* is a well traded populous Market Town, whose Market is weekly on Friday, and Fairs yearly on Wednesday and Thursday before Easter, and Thursday before the Feasts of St. Michael and St. Thomas the Apostle. The Sessions-house, Church, and a small Hospital in this Place are the chief Things of Note in it. It owes its Prosperity wholly to the Woollen Manufacture, introduced and settled there about fifty years ago by one Mr. Jordan, whose Posterity still manage a considerable Part of it. Their Loom-work, as they call it, consists chiefly in Shaloons, Serges, and Tammies; for the first of which they are particularly famous. 'Tis seated upon an ascent of a small Hill on a dry and sandy Ground, in a free and pure Air."

A little later there is another description in Bridges. Whether it was written before the death of that learned antiquary in 1725 or subsequently cannot be said, but it was probably written about 1721. It runs thus:—

"Kettering, a large and populous town containing five hundred sixty six houses, and two thousand six hundred forty five inhabitants, is bounded on the east by Warkton and Boughton, on the north by Weekley, on the west by Thorp-Malsover and Cranesley, and on the south by Broughton and Orlingbury. To the north west of the church is the mercate place, a row of houses[2] in the middle dividing the sheep-market from the Butcher-row. At the end of the Butcher-row is the Sessions-house, a good stone building supported by pillars. Eastward from the mercate-place is Newland, which breaks into four streets shooting towards the four cardinal points of the compass. In the center is Newland-pond where the four streets meet. In one of the pond-walls is fixed a piece of the stump of a cross. Coming out of the north end of Newland and crossing the stone pit leys, where stone is now dug, you descend by going westward into Staunch-lane, so named from pellucid or vitrified stones, which from the shape of some of them are called *Kitcats*,[3] and are esteemed good for

---

[1] Northamptonshire Notes and Queries. Vol. i., p. 137.

[2] Known as the Rotten Row.

[3] Morton, in his "Natural History of Northamptonshire," says, "Selenites is

staunching blood. They are also found in several other shapes in the clay used for making brick, and sometimes near the surface of the ground. Kettering field hath different names; the *Warren* ground, from a warren which was formerly there; the *Links*, covered with furze and brakes; and *Broom*-hills, which are not in distinct lands but common. At the bottom runs the ditch-brook dividing these parts from the common field, which is in yard-lands, and is ploughed in hides. The grass part is called Knaphill. In different parts of the field are three pieces of thirty or forty acres each, named Hall-pieces, which are not entitled to common. Killingholm, a meadow near Pightesley brook, lies all in common, except the doles which are mowed, and in distinct properties. Part of this meadow is called the Amends. Walcot, a meadow towards Warkton, in like manner is divided into doles. At the top of the hill at the south end of hall-piece, is a rising ground from whence you have a fair prospect over the country. In *Stony* lands between Weekley woods and Kettering are the vestigia of a dyke, carried on as far as the Duke of Montague's park in Weekley. On the west side of the town was the park, where are now two closes of that name."

There was a race-meeting,[1] or as it was then called a Horse Match, run here on 22nd August, 1727, and the value of the plate offered was £15. Supposing this was the only prize offered, however, it doubtless took some time to decide the "Horse Match," for when the horses entered were more than two or three, there were always several heats to decide the races. In this instance six horses started, and there were four heats.

A Survey of the whole of Kettering Lordship was made 1728-9, for John Duke of Montagu, by a Mr. Brazier, who appears to have

---

a Body frequently found at Kettering. 'Tis generally lodged in a Stratum of Clay, and on account of their transparency it has the name of Stone Glass. . . . Since Selenites is composed of the same matter as Talc is, its effects in Medicine must needs be as great. 'Tis easily reduced into a soft, fine and impalpable Powder, and being such I cannot but think it preferable, for relieving those Distempers wherein alkalies are of use, to the Testaceous Powders of the Shops, which are usually much coarser than this is, and that after a great deal of Labour bestowed upon them. Its use in stopping excessive Bleeding, has been try'd with very good success at Kettering; on which Account it has there the name of *Stanch*."

[1] Amongst the burials recorded in the Kettering Parish Register for the year 1732 is that of "Bellamy. Michael Bellamy of Burton a Youth of 11 Years of age killed being Hurt by Horses at our Horse Race dyed Sep. 23."

been an eminent land surveyor. This survey, which is known as Brazier's survey, showed that the Lordship contained an area of 2,823a. 2r. 8p., which was made up as follows:—

	a	r.	p.
Town and streets	67	0	10
Highways	42	0	20
Brooks	19	0	37
Broomhills	83	3	34
Cransley Brooks	82	3	15
Netherfield	688	1	33
Middlefield	645	3	29
Upperfield	667	2	0
Links	101	1	3
Wadcroft	10	1	3
Old Inclosure of the Hall Estate and Hall Gardens	414	3	24
	2,823	2	8

The plan made by Mr. Brazier, and for many years at Boughton House, has unfortunately disappeared.

In 1743, under an Act of William and Mary, the rate of Land Carriage to and from Kettering to London was fixed by the Court of Quarter Sessions at 4s. per cwt., in order to defeat a combination of "Waggoners and other Carryers" to charge "Excessive rates to the great injury of Trade."

From a copy of Letters of Request[1] it appears that "On Thursday 26 July 1744 between four and five o'clock in the afternoon there happened a most dreadful Fire[2] to break out in Kettering which in about the space of four hours, burnt down and utterly consumed no less than twenty six Dwelling Houses besides Barns, Stables, Warehouses, and other Outhouses thereunto belonging." The loss and damage caused by the Fire to buildings only amounted to some £434 exclusive of all insurances and the losses of those persons who did not desire the Benefit of any Collection and was upon a very low estimation less by £500 than would rebuild the

[1] Dash's copy Bridges' Northamptonshire. British Museum.

[2] The *Northampton Mercury* of 30th July 1744, states that the fire broke out at an oat kiln and that "an elderly Man, who was supplying the Fire at the Kiln, was so miserably burnt by the sudden Emission of the Flames, that he died the next morning."

same while the amount of losses in personal effects came to £701 6s. 5¼d. being a total loss by the Fire to those for whom the collection was made of the Sum of £1,135 6s. 5¼d. As was usual in those days the particulars of the fire and the losses caused by it were followed by an appeal to Charitable Persons "to cheerfully and speedily contribute to the Relief and Assistance of the poor Sufferers in their great Distress." Two Justices of the Peace vouched for the truth of the appeal, and thirteen townsmen were appointed Trustees of the fund to be collected.

Kettering was not free from the excitement caused by the rebellion of 1745—many of the townsfolk joining the Duke of Montagu's Regiment of Carabineers—and great was the relief when the defeat of the rebels at Culloden, on April 16th, 1746, reached the town on the 25th of that month.

In 1766 coal was bored for here, and on February 24th, 1766, it is stated "that the inhabitants of Kettering who have been for some time boring for coal, with great prospect of success, are now in daily expectations of coming at that much wanted necessity of life as they have already bored to the depth of 150 yards, and have the same tokens as are found in the coal counties."

There was another great fire on 5th November, 1766, caused, it was supposed, by some boys throwing squibs. It broke out between seven and eight in the evening, and burnt furiously till three o'clock the next morning. Seventeen dwelling-houses were burnt, and much grain, &c., including the farming stock of Mr. John Meadows. The writer of a letter on the subject, after describing the fire, adds: "The damage amounts to upwards of 4,000*l.*, much corn and grain were burnt, which the Farmers had been backward in selling; & the poor, who are indeed half-starved, & very wretched through the high provisions, would not assist to extinguish the flames, but rather stood rejoicing at the Farmers' misfortunes, & tauntingly asked one of them, while his wheat hovels and barns full of grain were burning, 'Will you take 7s. a strike (*i.e.*, a bushel) *now* for your wheat!'"[1]

In 1789 a great improvement was effected in the Market Place by pulling down the twelve old shops with chambers over, which have already been referred to and are more fully described elsewhere. Part of the premises were surrendered to Trustees at a

[1] Notes (MSS. and printed) collected by John Cole, in "Taylor Collection," Northampton Library.

Court held on 30th September, 1789, upon trust "that the owners of the Fair or Market in Kettering for the time being should ever thereafter use the site of the premises for the sole purpose of keeping their ancient and accustomed fairs and markets there with greater Convenience to themselves and to the inhabitants of the town and parish of Kettering . . . than they had hitherto been able to keep and hold the same . . . and upon further trust that no erections or buildings whatsoever (except temporary or moveable Stalls for the convenience of exposing merchandize in such fairs and markets) should at any time thereafter be erected or built upon the said surrendered premises."

The Sessions House was pulled down in 1805, and the present Local Board Room is said to have been built with the materials. The stone dated 1649, in the wall of the latter, can hardly, however, have been the date of the erection of the former, as the Sessions House was undoubtedly *in esse* in 1629.

On 2nd 1792, "a quarter before nine in the evening, an earthquake was felt at Kettering, and at several of the neighbouring towns, which continued near thirty seconds. It was preceded by a violent crash over head (as described by some;) by others as a violent concussion in the air; and by all as an earthquake, which extended near forty miles round; but was attended with no perceptibly pernicious effects, other than causing a general alarm." [1]

A little later on, 2nd October, 1792, the Baptist Missionary Society was formed at a meeting held in Mrs. Beeby Wallis's back parlour, although it is said the preliminary meeting was held at Mr. Thos. Gotch's house, Lower Street, the day before.

On 11 August, 1795, there was a Bread Riot at Kettering, and a letter from Thomas Gotch to his son John Cooper Gotch, dated August 12th, 1795, gives the following account of the affair: "I am sorry to tell you of a riot we had at Kettering on the day you went away. About 10 o'clock in the morning 5 load of flour passed through; the people seemed much inclined to stop them—the last waggon was stopped some little time, but got by. About one o'clock, just as we were at dinner, came by a load more with 6 or 8 soldiers; the people

[1] Extracted from a cutting from an old History of England. The month is not given in the cutting, which simply says: "On the 2nd of the same month." It was probably April or May.

attempted to stop it, and engaged the Blues with stones and drove them back. They then stopped it, and attempted to bring it back, but they overturned the waggon on Warren Hill. This brought together a vast crowd of people; they would not suffer the flour to be taken away. Mr. Maunsell came, and the Blues were ordered out, the trumpet blew to arms. Mr. Maunsell rode down street at the head of them. When they got to the mob they would not disperse, he reasoned with them for 3 hours—the soldiers all that time surrounded the flour—at last was obliged to read the Riot Act: then the soldiers drew their swords, but the people would not go away. The soldiers loaded the flour and began to drive the waggon away, the mob shouted and pelted them; at last with drawn swords they turned on the mob and rode furiously among them. A soldier whom I saw myself attempting to cut a man, was thrown from his horse; a pistol was fired—some say by the mob. I was there, but never saw the like before, and never wish any more. . . . At night the mob became desperate, broke Abram Mee's windows. There were no persons dangerously wounded—some few were hurt —God knows what the end will be: the town today is quite still."

In another letter to his son, dated October 4th, 1801, Mr. Thomas Gotch writes, "The news of peace [1] yesterday morning put the whole town in such hurry and spirit as I never saw at Kettering—indeed the people seemed frantick with joy, and nothing could allay the hurry and confusion there seemed for the whole day; men, women, and children running about street as if they were mad. The drums immediately beat, bells ringing, people shouting, that I hardly knew what I was doing for some time. At three o'clock the Volunteers and the Horse Soldiers assembled by agreement on the Market Hill, the Horse fired *feu de joie,* and between each the Volunteers fired volleys. At night the whole town was in a blaze of light—every window had candles. It being Saturday night made it difficult for me—Thomas being out—but Mary and your mother and myself made good show at both houses; we thought the people should not say we were behind those that felt the peculiar interest in peace."

At this time the roads [2] in the district were none of the best, and Dibdin in his "Tour through England" (1801) states that "Ketter-

---

[1] In a Gazette Extraordinary of 2nd October, 1801, it is stated that "Preliminaries of a Peace with France" were being arranged.

[2] In 1787 T. Wright and others advertise that their Coach performs the journey between London and Kettering in 13 hours.

ing is famous for nothing that I know of but its execrable roads." Later on he says, "I had occasion to travel from Huntingdon to Leicester, and I was informed that I might go by Stilton, Stamford, Oakham, and Uppingham, or St. Neots and Higham Ferrers, both of which I knew to be bad roads. I therefore chose that which passes through Thrapstone, Kettering, and Harborough, and which was represented to me as the best of the three. I found it however the most dangerous I ever attempted. The worst parts of those in Cornwall, where, from the nature of the materials, the sudden declivities, the unexpected moulderings of the rocks, the undermined masses of large roots, and other obstructions, which it requires the utmost industry to surmount, would for safety shame these roads, where no possible impediments occurred. This remark applies to a part of the road between Thrapston and Kettering, and the whole of that between Kettering and Harborough; the neglect of which is the more scandalous, because the said road from Huntingdon to Thrapston, where the materials are exactly the same, was perfectly safe and pleasant. The danger from this abominable road is the prodigious depths of the ruts, which might be remedied with very little labour, for the bottom is perfectly firm and sound. But I shall more particularly describe how curiously I was situated. In the space of eleven miles, between Kettering and Harborough, I was obliged, as were my family and servants, to walk five; and, lest the carriages should have overset, every individual of us were occasionally under the necessity of giving them assistance to keep them upon their wheels; and all this on a turnpike road. A pleasant thing to be lured to probable destruction by an invitation that holds out a promise to accommodate travellers! Were it not called a turnpike, passengers would at once know what they might probably incur, and it would be at their own risk if they thought proper to explore a doubtful passage in order to save a few miles. As it is, in the midst of your apprehensions you are called upon for a toll; and, though you are informed that the road will be worse as you get on, there is a pompous display of the only terms on which you are permitted to pass; and, if you think proper to refuse your compliance with these terms, under the idea that there is not a mutual obligation, you may legally, without further question, be taken before a magistrate. Thus was I compelled, either to risk my neck or walk five miles, indeed, it was everywhere dangerous, over a road the caricature of ploughed ground, and all this to accommodate a set of men, who undertake a public office, and neither fulfil the trust

themselves nor suffer others to do it for them. I must not forget to notice that as I passed through the gate, I told the woman with an appearance of gravity and earnestness, that I would certainly indict the road; to which she answered with an air of perfect simplicity, 'I wish to God you would, Sir, and then I might stand a chance of saving up my rent.'"

An important event in the history of the town was the Inclosure, at the beginning of this century, of the "Lands within the manor and parish of Kettering" by virtue of an Act passed in the 44th year of the reign of George III. (Sess. 1803-4). The Preamble to the Act sets forth that "the Open and Common Fields, Common Meadows, Common Pastures, and other Commonable Lands and Waste Grounds, of and within the Manor and Parish of Kettering, consist of 48 Yard Lands, and divers Parcels of Acrement Land, and other Commonable Lands, and containing altogether, by estimation, 2,300 Acres, or thereabouts." That "the Right honourable Lewis Thomas Lord Sondes, the Most noble Henry Duke of Buccleuch, K.G., and Elizabeth Duchess of Buccleuch his wife are the Lords and Lady of the Manor of Kettering in the Shares and Proportions following: (that is to say) Lord Sondes is entitled to Sixth-Tenth parts thereof; and the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch to the remaining Four-Tenth parts thereof." That "Lord Sondes is Patron of the Rectory and Parish Church of Kettering; and Joseph Knight, Clerk, is Rector thereof, and as such is Lord of a certain Manor in Kettering aforesaid, called the Rectory Manor; and is also in Right of his said Rectory, seised of certain Glebe Lands, being Three Yard-Lands and Three Quarters, containing 110 acres and one pole or thereabouts lying dispersed in, and parcel of the said open and common Fields; and is in respect of the Glebe Lands entitled to certain Common Rights, and as rector is entitled to all the Great and Small Tythes arising within the parish of Kettering (except such Parts thereof as are exempt from Tythes by the Payment of certain Moduses, Compositions, and other Customary Payments in lieu thereof hereinafter mentioned)." Then follows a list of the properties and their owners paying such Moduses, Compositions, or Customary Payments for and in lieu of all Tythes. Amongst them is a payment of 16s. a year in lieu of the Tythes "of certain Corn Mills in Kettering aforesaid, called Kettering Water Mills, belonging to the said Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch." Also a payment of 10d. a year "in lieu of all the Tythes of a Piece or Parcel of old inclosed Meadow Ground in Kettering aforesaid,

late the Estate of Sir Peter Soame, in the occupation of John Boddington, called Soam's Meadow."

Following the preamble is the appointment of Thomas Eagle, of Baginton, co. Warwick, James Weltden Roberts, of Thornby Grange, co. Northampton, and William Burdett, of Mowsley, co. Leicester, Gentlemen, as Commissioners for putting the Act into Execution, and numerous provisions as to their powers and duties, including directions to allot to the Rector certain lands in full satisfaction of all claims which he or his successors might have in respect of the Glebe Lands, Rights of Common, and of all manner of Great and Small Tythes, Moduses or Compositions in lieu thereof, Dues and other Payments whatsoever arising or due from all lands or properties whatsoever in the Parish of Kettering and the boundaries, limits and precincts thereof (except Mortuaries, Surplice fees, and Easter Offerings).

The first meeting of the Commissioners to receive objections to the claims of those interested under the Act was held at the White Hart Inn on Monday, 16th July, 1804, and a second meeting for the same purpose was held at the George Inn on 23rd August, 1804. In all 135 claims were sent in. The Commissioners made their award on 23rd November, 1805, thereby awarding the open fields, which consisted of 2,261a. 2r. 3p., as follows:—

	A.	R.	P.
Rector, in lieu of his Glebe	80	1	12
„ „ Tythes, Moduses, &c. .	364	3	35
Grammar School Trustees	32	1	12
Kettering Poor	9	1	7
Church and Town Estate	16	3	17
Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch	257	1	33
Lord Sondes	12	0	15
Stone pits		3	28
Other proprietors—some 75 in number, and about 48½ acres awarded for roads and footpaths	1487	1	4
	2261	2	3

The Napoleonic scare was very great at the beginning of the century, and the inhabitants of Kettering formed an efficient body of Volunteers and a troop of Yeomanry. The former were, in 1808, under the command of Captain J. C. Gotch, and the latter under

that of Captain the Hon. George Watson. The Yeomanry appear to have been well satisfied with their commander, for on January 9th, 1808, they presented him "with an elegant silver vase, richly gilded, appropriately ornamented, of antique shape, and capable of holding one gallon." On the other hand, on 25th July, 1808, Sergeant-major Hennell, on behalf of the Volunteers[1] presented a superb sword to Mr. J. C. Gotch. "After Capt. Gotch had thanked them, the corps retired to Captain Gotch's, where they partook of a cold collation provided by him on the occasion; exhibiting a scene, to a crowd of admiring spectators, of unostentatious generosity and innocent hilarity." [2]

The Volunteer movement finds favour to this day in Kettering, but the local troop of Yeomanry seems to have vanished.

Wednesday, 25th October, 1809, was George III.'s Jubilee, and the following extract, from the *Northampton Mercury* for 28th October, describes the manner of its observance here:—At "Kettering, the Jubilee was celebrated in a manner worthy of Britons. Nearly £300 having been collected, part of it was expended in giving meat and bread to all the poor and working people in the town (upwards of 200), with a small sum of money to each family; the residue to be applied to the reduction of the coals during the ensuing winter. Joy and festivity were never more conspicuous than on this happy occasion, while the temperance that distinguished the day paid an affecting and sincere homage to the virtues of our aged and beloved Sovereign. The Kettering Volunteers were also assembled, who, after firing three excellent vollies, joined with the band in singing the favourite national ode of God save the King."

On 10th November, 1810, there was a great hurricane, and rain which continuing through the whole of the day and night caused great damage at Kettering—scarcely a house in the town escaping its effects—whilst immense numbers of trees were blown down in the neighbourhood.

---

[1] *The Stamford Mercury*, in a list of "Officers of the Yeomanry Cavalry and Volunteer Infantry of Northamptonshire in 1804," mentions Kettering as follows:—"Kettering.—Major Commandant, George Robinson; Captains, John Cooper Gotch, Fenwick Skrimshire, and E. Busnell; Lieutenants, Samuel Wallis, Arthur Wilson, and John Adams; Ensigns, Geo. Wallis, William Cock, John Smith."—Reprinted in N. N. and Q., vol. ii., p. 246.

[2] *Northampton Mercury*, 30th July, 1808.

The Kettering[1] of this period was by no means the Kettering of to-day. Most of the houses in its principal streets were thatched, many were not more than one storey high, and a shop window possessing panes of glass eighteen inches square was gazed at with wonder. There were several open ponds in the streets, one being at the top of Gas Street [voted a nuisance by a Vestry on 6th November, 1806, and ordered to be filled in, another being made in its stead at the top of the Station Road, near the Hospital], another at the top of Lower Street and opposite the "Three Cocks," whilst there was still another at the top of Gold Street, on or near the site of which afterwards stood the old weighing machine, which was removed many years ago. These ponds, which were made for the purpose of washing the horses on their coming in from work in the open fields, were, with their slimy water and pestilential refuse, undoubted factors in spreading infection; and yet they were not the worst evils of this sort, for in almost every street and lane, excepting those which were not blessed with kennels at all, there were only ditches and open drains used for the purposes of drainage, while the inhabitants were in the habit of throwing manure and filth on to the public streets of the town. A Vestry held in November, 1808, resolved to remedy the latter nuisance and to keep the streets clean, and by degrees the old stone surface drains were covered over, deeper barrel drains were made, the ponds were filled in, and the streets began to assume their present air of respectability.

Another familiar object in the streets, to our ancestors, was the Watchman, and on 22nd November, 1810, the Vestry resolved that two watchmen were necessary for the whole year, and that in order to secure an efficient watch during the winter three men be appointed to do the duty alternately from Michaelmas to Lady Day, and there were chosen E. Turner, W. Martin, and T. Goode, each of them to receive 7s. per week during the time of his service, and a great coat of drab colour with a blue collar.

The three town pumps which, by a Vestry held on 2nd September, 1812, were ordered "to be repaired and new and enlarged spouts to be put therein with hooks at the end and marks underneath," are also things of the past, as are presumably also "the three

[1] In 1801 the population was 3,011 and there were 690 houses. On 23rd May, 1811, there were 713 houses, 1,491 male inhabitants, and 1,751 females, militia and soldiers not counted.

parish Fire Engines and the forty firemen" referred to in a Vestry of October, 1813.

The principal trades of olden Kettering, such as silk, plush, and ribbon weaving, linen-making, lace-making, and wool-combing, which were in full swing at the beginning of this century, have gradually died out, giving place to the trade of boot and shoe manufacturing, now so largely carried on here, and to one or two minor trades such as the manufacture of clothing and corsets, and also certain machinery and other items necessary for the boot and shoe trade. It is believed that Mr. Thomas Gotch was the first to commence the manufacture of boots in this town; but although he opened his factory about 1790, it was not until about 1857 that the shoe trade began to develope.

In connection with the wool-combing trade there used to be annual processions on the 3rd of February, the day dedicated to the wool-combers' patron saint, St. Blaise; but the last of these processions (which included someone dressed to represent the saint) took place as long ago as 3rd February, 1829.

But to return to the town history. In 1818, when the population numbered 3,600, the town (according to a newspaper article which appeared in the *Northampton Mercury* on 3rd July, 1858) began to brighten. "Some amendment had been wrought in its sewage, and in the brilliant summer of the year in question (1818) the first of the numerous buildings north of Newland Street (now the Railway House) was built. Before this, with the exception of two mud huts, there was not a single dwelling from Carter's Well opposite 'The Robin Hood' on the one side to the Pound on the other—the sites of the numerous cottages being then gardens and fields—three venerable elm trees which spread their leafy honours over a bank just below the Pound forming the Town Boundary. As yet Freestone Row was not, nor Victoria Terrace, nor the Barracks, nor Gibraltar, nor Prospect Place looking towards the Union Workhouse, nor that palace itself, nor Albion Buildings, nor Albert Terrace, nor Spital Square, nor Pleasant Place, nor many very unpleasant places, courts, and alleys. Of the public schools only two existed, one on the Market Hill, the other near the Horsemarket. But nevertheless the spirit of progress was abroad, houses began to assume a smarter appearance, and to grow a storey higher, shops began to increase, better goods were exhibited, and better windows and fronts were constructed to exhibit them in."

The improvement was, however, says the same article, very

gradual until about the time of the passing of the Reform Act. Before this Act was passed there were only two persons in the town who could vote at a Parliamentary Election in respect of Kettering property—viz., the Rector and Mr. Samuel Brampton (the latter of whom had purchased some freehold property in Silver Street from the Duke of Buccleuch), for all the other inhabitants being copyholders were disqualified. The inhabitants of the town, having no vote, naturally took much less interest in political matters then than they do now; but that they had a political bias is shown by the fact that a certain section at an election about that period collected together near the "George," and broke the windows of such coaches as were taking voters of the wrong colour through the town *en route* to vote at Northampton. Indeed, so violent did the mob become that soldiers were sent over from Northampton to keep order; and, notwithstanding that they formed in line on the Market Hill, party feeling still ran high, and the Riot Act had to be read by Mr. Wetherell before the crowd would disperse.

The passing of the Reform Act in 1832, under which Kettering became the nomination and polling place for the Northern Division of Northamptonshire, was hailed with delight, and celebrated on 19th June, 1832, by a general holiday and a grand procession representative of the arts and crafts of the town. The Act seems to have given Kettering quite an impetus. For, says the report already mentioned, "It was no longer a common market town, but a kind of local metropolis, its shopkeepers became ambitious, its shops were transformed into emporiums, and its inns became hotels." Before this change, however, the "White Hart" was a very respectable inn, with a substantial though old-fashioned front, good stabling, and a large assembly room where the *élite* of the district used periodically to meet—its balls and assemblies being quite important events and matters of no little interest and pride to the town. In those days, too (the Sessions House having been pulled down), a quorum of Justices used to meet at the inns at Petty Sessions.

In 1832 the first election under the new Act was held, a severe contest taking place between Lord Milton and Mr. Hanbury (afterwards Lord Bateman) on the one side and Lord Brudenell and Mr. Tryon on the other. The excitement at Kettering was, as may well be imagined, intense. "Numbers of special constables were sworn in, music echoed through the streets, flags and banners streamed from nearly every window, crowds poured in from all quarters,

favours glittered on every breast, the tumultuous shouting in the Market Place at the hustings was pretty nearly incessant, speeches were made from the balconies, there were numerous feastings at the public houses, tumults and riots without number, and finally the chairing of the successful candidates—then indeed Kettering began to feel itself a town."

At a later election a rather memorable scene occurred on the Market Hill where the polling booth was set up. The nomination was about to take place and the hill was crowded with people when a troop of yeomanry, led by John George of Bythorn, came galloping up and attempted to sweep the crowd off the market place in order that the candidate they favoured might obtain the larger show of hands after the nomination. The special constables, however, who formed a cordon round the crowd, stood firm, as also did both political factions, and the yeomanry were unsuccessful. Naturally irritated at his non-success, the taunts of a half-witted fellow in the crowd so enraged John George that he drew a pistol and pointed it at him, but he dodged behind the crowd, who felt anything but comfortable until the candidates induced George to hand the pistol to them on the platform of the booth, where it was discharged in the air—thus ending what might have been a tragic incident.

The Gas Company was formed about the year 1833, and in those days of ill-paved streets the gas must have proved a boon indeed, and infinitely preferable to the light given by the lanterns which it was the custom of those out of doors after dark to carry. The *Lincolnshire Chronicle* of November 14, 1834, states that "Kettering was lighted with gas for the first time on Friday week, the works were commenced in July last, and are now completed by the contractors, Messrs. Barlow and Sharp." "Hitherto," continues the writer, "Kettering has exhibited a very unattractive and gloomy appearance after nightfall. It could not boast even of the common oil lamps which few towns of any pretensions were without. The contrast between the now cheerful and brilliant flood of light and the former total darkness of the streets is consequently not a little striking."

There was a very heavy snowstorm in December, 1836, and Dr. Corrie refers to it in his diary thus :—

"Dec. 27. Kettering. Snow continues to fall. The mail from London passed at ten instead of three in the morning, drawn by six horses, there being three postboys, but no coachman on the box. No mail has come from the north for two days, and the

mail from London yesterday which arrived here so late did not get further than Rockingham.

"Dec. 28. No coaches of any kind have arrived or passed through to-day. The old rector of Kettering, Mr. Vevers, who is 82 years of age, says there has not been such a snowstorm for 60 years."

In the spring of 1837 Kettering was visited by Thomas Whittaker, one of the early teetotal reformers. His visit, if we are to judge from his book, entitled *Life's Battles in Temperance Armour*, was not a pleasant one, as in those days the pioneers of the Temperance movement were regarded with almost universal suspicion. Indeed, the Sunday before Whittaker's meeting the Rev. Wm. Robinson, preaching from the text "Be not righteous overmuch," tried to show that teetotalers were laying obligations on the Churches which the Bible did not enjoin, while the Rev. John Jenkinson, taking as his text the words "Beware of false prophets," warned his flock to be on their guard against false doctrine.

The British School-room was obtained for the meeting. "It was taken possession of by the rowdies of the town, and they had the meeting conducted after their own fashion. The Rev. John Jenkinson was in the chair, and after saying that he hoped they would hear what I had to say, he announced that, at the close of my address, they would be allowed to put questions, and if they did not do so he should take me in hand himself. He concluded by saying that he hoped the day would come when every working man would have at least 'two pints of ale a day.' Upon that, several of the men began to flourish bottles and ask questions before I could begin. The interruption was continuous, but I spoke for an hour, and I think made some impression. At length some one set fire to some loose shavings lying on the floor (carpenters having been at work during the day). A cry of 'Fire' excited the people, and the roughs made a rush at me and jammed me against the wall and the meeting broke up in disorder."[1] Things looked so serious that Mr. Gotch, a local banker, was sent for, and Mr. Whittaker walked through the streets of Kettering under the protection of Mr. Gotch, who went first, a Friend (Messrs. Francis Wright and Robert Wallis) on either side, and the solitary policeman in the rear. It was during this visit that the late Mr. James Wells (whose efforts on

[1] "Life's Battles in Temperance Armour," by Thomas Whittaker. 3rd ed. London: Hodder and Stoughton. 1888.

Hugh Wallis
The Mission House

behalf of temperance are well known) signed the pledge, while soon after the Rev. John Jenkinson became an ardent temperance advocate.

The Queen's Coronation was celebrated here on 28th June, 1838, the principal features of the day's proceedings being a procession and a tea on the Market Hill to women and girls, and also to boys under eight. In 1839, Chartism appears to have been rife in this neighbourhood, there being a meeting of Chartists to the number of 150 at Kettering on 19th July, and it is said the members of the Kettering branch were drilled in sword exercise twice a week at a public-house.

On May 31st and June 1st and 2nd, 1842, the Jubilee Meetings of the Baptist Missionary Society were held here, and were attended by a great concourse of persons from all parts of the country. So great was the number of vehicles in the town that all the inn yards were filled, and a double row of carriages stood in the street from the George Hotel to the "Mission House" in Lower Street.

One of the chief objects of interest to the visitors was the Mission House, in one of the back rooms[1] of which was held the memorable meeting on October 2nd, 1792, at which John Ryland, Reynold Hogg, John Sutcliff, Andrew Fuller, Abraham Greenwood Edward Sharman, Joshua Burton, Samuel Pearce, Thomas Blundel William Heighton, John Eayres, Dr. Staughton, and Joseph Timms were present, and the Baptist Missionary Society was formed.

"The townspeople generally partook of the enthusiasm inspired by the (Jubilee) meeting. The Rev. Henry Corrie, the then rector, courteously ordered the church to be opened for the inspection of the visitors; the bells rang, and continued ringing at intervals during the day (June 1); while the town crier was sent round to announce that the Baptist Jubilee was being held, and the inhabitants were invited to attend." The meetings were addressed by friends from far and near. Amongst the speakers was Rev. Wm. Knibb, a native of this town, and, at one of the largest of the meetings, there was present the Rev. Reynold Hogg, then over ninety years of age, and the only survivor of the honoured thirteen who fifty years previously had formed the Society.

---

[1] *The* room itself was even then altered, but its original dimensions (about ten feet by twelve) were marked in chalk on the floor of what is now the drawing room, and the position of the fireplace was shown; while the identical two-leaved mahogany dining table, on which the famous resolutions were written, occupied its place in the apartment.

On Tuesday, November 12, 1844, the Queen and Prince Consort passed through Kettering on their way to Burleigh House, Stamford, and the good people of the town were in no way behind their neighbours in loyalty. Four triumphal arches were conspicuous amongst the decorations, and the "White Hart," in honour of the occasion, and by reason of the Queen entering its doors, was thereafter called the "Royal Hotel."

The development of railways was naturally regarded with much interest at Kettering, and the prospect of its being one of the towns by which the Midland Railway would pass was hailed with delight, more especially as travelling facilities were at this time very poor in Kettering, as the following article, which appeared in the *Citizen*, for Monday, August 2, 1847, tends to show:—

"From Harborough the trunk line [of the Midland] is to proceed to Kettering, which town will probably derive more benefit from the road than any other. Coal now is obtained from Harborough, with the additional tax of eleven miles land carriage. Its price is expected to be reduced about one-half; a change the importance of which those only can appreciate who have seen the poor of Kettering, in the midst of winter, purchasing the half of a quarter of a hundredweight of coal; a change in which every family resident in Kettering and its vicinity will feel a deep interest on the score of both economy and comfort. To the manufacturers of Kettering and the agriculturists of the whole neighbourhood the new road will be of great service. Goods and corn and cattle, now drawn or driven to Northampton or Wellingborough, will be delivered at the nearest station and forwarded promptly. And this facility of transit may fairly be expected to improve the corn market. . . . There are, we presume, few towns in Great Britain equal in size to Kettering that are so destitute as it is of travelling facilities. It resembles in truth one of its celebrated streets called 'Pudding Bag,' and so called because there is no way out of it but that by which you get into it. And woe to the luckless wight who makes his way from Wellingborough to Kettering, thinking to leave it in some other direction, wishing, for example to get to Thrapston, Harborough, or Northampton. Like the pudding he must get out at the same end of the bag he went in. A coach passing every day from Uppingham to Wellingborough and back, and an omnibus to and from the latter place once a day, are positively the only public conveyances for passengers of which the town can boast. If the traveller wish to get to Leicester, a

distance of 26 miles, he has to make the circuit of Wellingborough Blisworth, and Rugby [per L. and N. W. Ry.], a distance of more than 60 miles, at an expense, by second class, of 10s.; and after the most toilsome and sagacious exploration of 'Bradshaw's Guide,' let him not expect to reach his destination in less than half a day. Let the new road be completed and Kettering will have the means of frequent and easy communication with every part of the Empire, and may expect 'the morning papers' by 11 o'clock, and two London mails a day instead of the one which is now dispatched at six o'clock in the evening."

In due course, namely, on May 7th, 1857, the railway then known as the Leicester and Hitchin Railway was opened, and the day was observed as a holiday. An excursion train was run to Southill Station, near which a picnic was held in the park of S. Whitbread, Esq., and a ball was held in the Kettering Corn Exchange in the evening. The line was opened for general traffic on the following day—an express train running from Leicester to Kettering, stopping at Kibworth and Harborough, in an hour and thirteen minutes.

March 10th, 1863, the day on which the Prince of Wales was married, was another red-letter day in Kettering history. Quite an extensive programme of rejoicings was carried out upon that occasion. Commencing at six a.m. with the ringing of the Church bells and continuing throughout the day by performances of bands—Temperance Band 7 to 8 o'clock, Mobb's Drum and Fife Band 8 to 9; assemblage of school children on the Market hill, and procession round the town with flags, banners, and music; the juvenile contribution to the rejoicings ending up most satisfactorily with a distribution of cakes, oranges, and medals on the Market hill at noon; rustic sports at the same place, consisting of climbing greased poles, races by men, women, and children, for geese, legs of mutton, and other eatable rewards, in the afternoon; fireworks in the evening; the whole concluding with the illumination of the Town Hall, at 8 o'clock, and a soirée in that building, attended by 180 guests, who kept up the dancing until a late hour.

In this year, too, the Northamptonshire Agricultural Society held their Show here.

The last public celebration which has to be recorded is that of the Queen's Jubilee, held on Tuesday, 21st June, 1887. Its principal feature was, perhaps, the tea, given in Mr. Eldred's field, Green Lane, to the children of the town, some 4,650 in number,

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY
LIBRARY

after they had taken part in the procession. The following is a copy of the official progamme of the day's proceedings :—

"6 a.m.—Merry peal to be rung on the Church bells.

"10.30 a.m.—Full dress parade of Volunteers and band; followed by manual, firing, and bayonet exercises, on the Market Hill, including a *Feu-de-joie.*

"1 p.m.—Procession of children with flags and banners, preceded by the Fire Brigade in full uniform and bands of music.

"*Ladies and gentlemen are requested to join in the procession and to assist in carrying out the necessary arrangements.*

"3 p.m.—Children's Tea in the Glebe Field, Green Lane.

"4 p.m.—Sports to commence at the Recreation Ground.

"4.30 p.m.—Children to gather in the fields adjoining the Recreation Ground, where amusements will be provided, including numerous balloon ascents.

"10 p.m.—A grand display of fireworks.

"*It is hoped that the inhabitants generally will do their best to suitably decorate their houses, and will unite together to promote harmony and good feeling on this auspicious occasion.*

"The celebration will be continued on Wednesday, 22nd June, by a meat tea and entertainment given to those inhabitants of Kettering who are over 60 years of age. Sixpence of the new coinage will be presented to each of the guests."

During the last thirty years the town has grown wonderfully, and its trade has increased in proportion. Improvements have followed one another in rapid succession, and Kettering presents a very different appearance to what it did at the beginning of this century. The first public buildings erected since that time were probably the old National Schools on the Market Hill and Church Walk, and the British School, which was built in 1834. These were followed by the Workhouse, at the beginning of this reign; the Police Station, in 1852; the Corn Exchange (the property of the Kettering Town Hall and Corn Exchange Company), in 1854; the Northend School, in 1859; the Temperance Hall, in 1864; St. Andrew's Church, in 1870; the National Schools, Horsemarket, 1872; the Mission Hall, in 1873; the Salvation Army Barracks, in 1887; the Victoria Hall (the property of the Kettering Public Hall Company, Limited), in 1888; the Conservative Club (the property of a limited company), in the same year; the Working Men's Club, in 1888; the Liberal Club (owned by the Kettering Liberal Club Company,

Limited), in 1889 ; and St. Mary's Church, in the same year, and many more. The continuing increase of Kettering both in size and population,[1] indeed, indicates that its future is full of possibilities ; but it is no part of the historian's duty to prophesy ; his duty is done when he has recorded the events of the past.

---

[1] The Census for 1891 shows the population of Kettering to be 19,453. The population in 1821 was 3,668 ; in 1831, 4,099 ; in 1841, 4,867 ; in 1851, 5,198 ; in 1861, 5,845 ; in 1871, 7,184 ; and in 1881, 11,095.

PART II.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

CHAPTER I.

The Founding of the Workhouse.

"Until the time of Henry VIII.," says Blackstone, "the poor subsisted entirely upon private benevolence, and the charity of well-disposed Christians. For though it appears by the *Mirrour*, that by the common law the poor were to be 'sustained by parsons, rectors of the church, and the parishioners, so that none of them die for default of sustenance,' yet till the statute 27 Hen. VIII. c. 25, we find no compulsory method chalked out for the purpose." It is a common belief that until the dissolution of religious houses the poor were generously looked after by the monks, and that one of the immediate evils resulting from the Dissolution was the flooding of the country with a number of hungry paupers. That paupers were so let loose there is no doubt, but that they were so was one of the effects of this monastic generosity, which, instead of inducing the healthy amongst them to work for their living, encouraged them in habits of indolence and beggary.

After the Dissolution it soon became evident that some provision would have to be made for the maintenance of the poor, and after many statutes of little use had been passed the statute 43 Eliz. c. 2, provided that overseers of the poor should be appointed in every parish. And it was also provided that the churchwardens of every parish should also be the overseers; and that there should likewise be appointed two, three, or four, but not more of the inhabitants; such last-mentioned overseers to be substantial householders, and to be nominated yearly by two justices dwelling near the parish. The Act further provided that every poor person should be relieved or provided with work, and that the funds for such relief should be

raised and applied by the parish officers within the limits of their parishes.

The Vestry, as a governing body, seems as time went on to have become more and more closely connected with the administration of the poor laws. What the exact powers of the Vestry were in Kettering as to other matters in the 16th or 17th century cannot be said, but much of the town business was transacted by the Court of the Lords of the Manor; what business did not come within its jurisdiction was doubtless dealt with by the Vestry.

But returning for the present to the history of the "Poor" question in Kettering. At the beginning of the 18th century there was no regular workhouse here, and it was the custom of the overseers to either rent various houses in which to house the poor, or else to pay those who were willing to take them in for their board and keep. Various other means were adopted according to the exigencies of the case, and in one instance it is recorded that, "Whereas John the Son of John Houghton Lincy Maker became chargeable to the Parish of Kettering & was relieved by the Overseers of the said Parish & in order to the saving & indemnifying the said Parish from the aforesaid charge He the said John Houghton hath surrendered his Messuage scituate in the said Parish to Wm. Tink and Saml. Curring two of the present Overseers of the Poor for the said Parish and to their Successors for the use above mentioned & the said Overseers have put & placed the s^{d} poor child an Apprentice[1] to John Barker of the s^{d} parish of Kettering Weaver for the term & space of Eleven Years & in consideration thereof have put the said John Barker in the possession of the said house above mentioned and have covenanted & agreed with the said John Barker that he the said Barker shall have his dwelling in the House Rent free & be Exempted from paying any Taxes or Levies that may be laid upon the said tenement dureing the said term. Agreed to by Saml. Corin & Seven Inhabitants."

These makeshift arrangements do not seem to have been very satisfactory, however, and from an old Overseers' Book we find it recorded that on "October 2nd 1717 It was agreed at a Vestry by the Inhabitants of Kettering to Erect a workhouse & that Stephen Mills, Joseph Baker, William Sutton, William Haslewood,

---

[1] On March 14th, 1714, it was agreed at a general meeting that the overseers should spend only one shilling at the putting of any Town Boy Apprentice.

provide Cloth for shirts & Sheets. And Mr. Jordan provide six pieces of Linseys of a led colour for Clothing.

"The first Town Meeting at the Parish Workhouse June 2nd 1718 was given Notice of at the Parish Church on Sunday last."

The next entry is a resolution, and we presume it was passed at this meeting, but there is no date to it:—

"We the Inhabitants of Kettering do approve of the Management of our Trustees in the purchase of our Workhouse and likewise of the Repairs of the said House. And we do agree the Interest of the £100 Borrow'd of John Bridges Esq. towards the purchase of the said Workhouse be paid by Levy by the Overseers of the Poor when due & likewise all the Charges of Repairs of the said Workhouse And we do likewise agree that the Trustees with the Church Wardens & Overseers of the Poor do place such poor people in the said Workhouse as they find necessary & provide such Clothing Diet and Lodging as they find most proper Agreed unto by us Stephen Mills, John Warner, and Eight other principle Inhabitants."

Mr. Robert Smith was the first Master of the Workhouse, and his wages were £4 per quarter.

On 18th May, 1718, there was "Allow'd to Robert Smith £1·5·0 for going to Olney and Bedford on 11th April last to gain instructions from the Masters of the Workhouses there he being out five days and made a present of five shillings to the Master at Olney."

On 2nd August was paid the sum of £1 13s., being the money expended by the seven managers at eleven meetings at Publick Houses to consult about the Workhouse.

On November 18th it was "Resolv'd that those mornings that the poor in the Workhouse have any spoon meat to Breakfast they shall be allow'd neither Cheese nor Bear."

"Joseph Baker and others were formally admitted to the Workhouse property on 13th Octr. 1718 Upon speciall Trust that they or their survivors should for ever dispose and imploy the same premises in Making a Workhouse thereof for the Imployment of the Poor of the Parish of Kettering to work therein for ever."

The house, which was the property (copyhold) of Charles Smith Citizen and Girdler of London and Ann his wife, was described as "All that Messuage House Barn and Garden . . situate in a certain Place in Kettering aforesaid called Hog Leys now in the possession of Wm. Farey the Jitty Lane on the South part thereof and Dibbs House or Farm on North part thereof." The other copy-

Watthouse
Lane
Hugh Wallis

hold premises the property of Mary Faulkner of London Spinster one of the Daughters and Coheiresses of Griffin Faulkner and Ann his wife, were described as "All those two South ends Bays of Buildings with the appurtenances of a certain Malt House in Kettering as the same is now divided in the possession of Thomas Cave which said two Bays of Building a butt on the North to the residue of the said Malt House and on the South on William Farey's Gatehouse."

The MS., from which the foregoing particulars are taken, concludes with a list of the Overseers from 1712-1748, and a note of the poor levies as follows:—

Date.	Overseers' Names.	Levy in the Pound. s.	d.
1712.	Wm. Tink, Geo. Warner, and Saml. Corrin		
1713.	Thos. Worcester, Jos. Baker, Thos. Richards, John Munn	2	7
1714.	Thos. Woodford, John Pettifer, Ralph Some, Simon Dorr ...	2	6
1715.	Thos. Dawson, Wm. Sutton, Wm. Wignall, Jos. Baker	2	1
1716.	John Wymond, Edwd. Lea, John Lyons, Jos. Wright	2	8
1717.	Jos. Buswell, James Stacey, Wm. Hopkins, John Jordan	2	4
1718.	Jos. Baker, Wm. Haslewood, John Jordan, junr., Wm. Sutton	2	4
1719.	John Stoughton, Stephen Mills, John Belcher, Wm. Sutton ...	2	0
1720.	Rich. Allen, Nathl. Hewson, Wm. Sutton, John Stoughton ...	1	8
1721.	Matthew Munn, John Jordan, Richd. Allen, Wm. Tinke ...	2	0
1722.	Jos. Baker, Giles Brown, Wm. Tink, Mattw. Munn ...	2	0
1723.	Ephm. Buswell, Humphy. Althrop, Giles Brown, Wm. Tinke	1	8
1724.	Thos. Woodford, Wm. Wignell ...	1	6
1725.	John Belcher, John Warner	1	10
1726.	Wm. Whitlark, Edwd. Lea ...	2	2
1727.	Jos. Bamford, Mattw. Chater	3	4
1728.	Danl. Baker, Thos. Richards	3	4
1729.	Wm. Mawley, Lewis Clark...	3	4

Date.	Overseers' Names.	Levy in the Pound. s.	d.
1730.	Wm. Stiff, Jos. Roberts	2	8
1731.	Saml. Baker, Wm. Watts	2	8
1732.	Thos. Eayre, Saml. Rowlat	1	8
1733.	Jos. Baker, Wm. Baker	1	8
1734.	Nathl. Wade, Geo. Wade	1	8
1735.	John Goodfellow, Jos. Baker ...	2	0
1736.	Wm. Wallis, Thos. Boon	2	4
1737.	Ben. Meadows, Jos. Nunneley	1	8
1738.	Tho. Richards, Jonan. Munn ...	1	8
1739.	John Norwich, John Munn		
1740.	Jos. Bailey, Jos. Lovell		
1741.	John Buswell, John Whittle		
1742.	John True, Jacob Watson, Wm. Hill, Newman Meadows		
1743.	Jos. Sparrow, Saml. Wallis		
1744.	Jos. Nunnelly, John Baker		
1745.	Thos. Tingle, Kitt Tomson		
1746.	Wm. Bamford, Saml. Richardson ...		
1747.	Wm. Whitlark, Geo. Pepper		
1748.	Lewis Maydwell, Newman Meadows		

CHAPTER II.

Parochial Rates.[1]

As the years went on the condition of the poor in Kettering grew to be a burning question, and the burden of their support began to be almost insupportable. Various measures were taken and attempts made to grapple with the question, and in the *Northampton Mercury* of April 28th, 1787, we read that "At Kettering in this County, a number of Gentlemen last Year, formed themselves into a Committee for the Management of the Poor; and by thus dividing that toilsome task into several Hands, were enabled to pay proper Attention to every Case; the Aged and the Afflicted met with Sympathy and Relief—the Industrious were encouraged—the Idle made to work—and all were liberally supplied. At giving up their Accounts at Easter the Parish was pleasingly surprised to find a Saving of more than £300 from the Average Annual Expences of the three preceding Years! Populous Parishes may see in this instance the Importance of placing this Trust in such Hands who have Leisure and Ability duly to discharge it."

The improvement, did not however, long continue, for the first year of the present century opened most gloomily for Kettering, several wet harvests in succession and the war having caused all kinds of provisions to become very dear. Agriculture was distressed, and the little trade carried on in the town was paralysed. A few extracts from the Vestry Book will show a state of things which the present generation, happily for them, know nothing of.

"At a meeting held at the Church on Monday, the 15th September, 1800, to consider and to resolve what shall be done for the relief of the poor, Mr. Joseph Wright was requested to buy one or more loads of barley flour as soon as possible, for the purpose of immediate supply. That the overseer sell the above-mentioned barley flour to the poor at 2s. 6d. per stone. No family to be per-

---

[1] This Chapter, with the exception of a few paragraphs, is a reprint of a broadside issued and written by John Wallis, Esq., in 1877.

mitted to purchase more than one quarter of a stone per head. Taking into consideration the very distressed and alarming state of the poor of this parish, owing to the high price of provisions, it is out of our power to relieve them in a manner at all adequate to their necessities. That his Majesty's Justices of the Peace be respectfully requested to exercise that power which they possess of calling in the neighbouring parishes to our aid. That a Committee be appointed to buy grain and flour to be sold at reduced prices, and the loss to be paid out of the poor rate. This appointment is to continue for one week, since we fully hope and rely that the farmers of Kettering will, before the expiration of that time, voluntarily come forward, in imitation of the farmers in other parts of the Kingdom, and sell their grain at such prices as will put it in the reach of the poor, and that the farmers who come to Kettering market will follow the same example."

A petition was presented to the Justices at the Quarter Sessions, held at Northampton, on the 9th October, 1800, setting forth the "distressing weight of the poor rates, the melancholy effects of which the petitioners were daily witnessing, and asking their Worships to afford them such relief as they may deem proper to be applied in aid of such poor rates." The Justices, however, declined to do anything until the opinion of Serjeant Hill and the Attorney-General had been obtained as to the legality of enlarging the area of rating, whereupon "The Vestry requested Mr. Marshall, coroner, to draw up a case for that purpose."

Case.

"As the statute 43 Elizabeth, c. 2, s. 3, gives a power to two justices if they do perceive that the inhabitants of any parish are not able to levy among themselves sufficient sums for the maintenance of their poor, that then the said justices shall tax other parishes in aid. The inhabitants of the parish of Kettering submit the following statements of facts for your consideration, how far they are entitled to the relief mentioned in the above-recited Act.

"That the assessment for the relief of the poor for these some years past has been on an average nearly 14s. in the pound, and this last twelve months amounted to the sum of 20s.

"That numbers of the middling class of inhabitants by this heavy and distressing weight of the poor rate have been yearly reduced in their circumstances, the melancholy effects of which we are daily

witnessing in the continually increasing application of those for relief who were but till lately in comfortable circumstances.

"That in consequence of the considerable rise in every necessary article of life, rates to the amount of 11s. in the pound have been already expended since Easter last, and upon the most moderate computation the poor rate alone for this year will exceed 25s. in the pound, and that calculated nearly upon rack rents.

"That from the alarming increase of the poor rate very many of the residents in Kettering, whose incomes are small, find themselves utterly incapable of bearing such heavy burdens and maintaining their families, and that therefore, unless some mode is adopted to alleviate this rate, a great part of the inhabitants and their families must become paupers or leave the parish.

"That the inhabitants in this parish who are daily receiving relief amount to 1,200, and the number who appear to be rated to the poor to 550, out of which last number it has been found absolutely necessary to excuse 285, being about one half of those rated, so that it appears from this statement there are only 265 persons contributing at this time to the support of the 1,200 poor, the expenditure in support of whom appears to be £70 weekly.

"That the rents assessed in this parish amount to the sum of £2,900, and that the expenditure this year will be £3,500, being £1,450 more than last year.

"That it appears the number of poor in the Workhouse last year consisted of only 47, and that this year there appears to be 77, and that the difference in the weekly maintenance is 15 guineas.

"The inhabitants finding themselves totally incapable of meeting this enormous expenditure, have made the necessary application directed by the statute to two justices, who are desirous of affording the relief asked by taxing in aid the parishes within the hundred, provided they can safely do so, but conceiving the statute not to have been acted up to of late years they have great doubt how to act in the business.

"You are therefore requested to favour the parish with your answer to the following query, and to advise them in general how to act under this their present distressed situation.

"Query from the above statement and the construction of the words of the Statute, will the Justices be justified in taxing in aid the neighbouring parishes within the hundred, and if they should refuse so to do is there any and what other mode to be adopted in order to obtain the redress and relief required?"

Mr. Erskine's Opinion.

"The operation of a Statute cannot be affected by its not having been put into force. . . The Statute does not mean that parishes shall be put upon a footing of equality with regard to the rates by which they may be required to maintain their poor, but only that when from accident or local circumstances there shall be within any parish what may be fairly termed an inability to support all who stand in absolute need of relief, there shall be a taxation in aid upon other parishes. I am therefore of opinion that the Magistrates are bound to hear the case of Kettering, and if they consider the facts stated, supposing them to be supported by evidence, to amount to an inability they ought to direct a rate in aid from other parishes . . ."

Serjeant Hill was of the same opinion, but although Mr. Erskine considered that there was no doubt as to "inability" it does not appear that any aid was granted, for by an entry in the Vestry Book, dated March 3rd, 1801, it appears that 28s. in the pound had been granted to the Overseers of the Poor since Easter, 1800. From this time the parish appearing to have given up all hope of assistance from without, set to work manfully to face its own difficulties, and to find employment for its own poor, entered into business, borrowing £500, and started "Tammy" weaving to employ the numerous weavers who were out of work and receiving parish relief. This enterprise does not appear to have been very successful, for after a time it is recorded that "The 'Tammy' trade is now flat and that a trial of making mop yarn be made, and that the female children be taught the art of lace making, and that a sum of £300 be borrowed by the parish officers in case of need," to enable them to carry on the business. So matters went on continuing to improve until 1806, when the poor rates touched the lowest point in any year of the first 35 years of this century, namely, 8s. in the pound; from this time it gradually began to rise, the rates being as follows, viz.:—

1807.—9s. in the pound.
1808.—10s. in the pound, in addition to which there were two highway rates and a Church-rate.
1809.—12s. in the pound.
1810.—11s. „ „ „ also a highway and church-rate.
1811.—12s. „ „ „
1812.—14s. „ „ „

1813.—15s. in the pound,
1814.—13s. „ „ „
1815.—16s. „ „ „
1816.—19s. „ „ „
1817.—20s. „ „ „

The burden had now reached such a point as to reduce the parish to a community of paupers, and being filled with despondency and alarm they addressed the following petition to Parliament, giving a résumé of the progress of the Poor's Rates for the previous twenty-five years.

COPY OF THE PETITION.

"31st March, 1817.

"To the Honorable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled.—The humble petition of the inhabitants of Kettering sheweth that your petitioners are heavily burdened by the Poor Rates now raised in this parish which have increased to a most alarming extent, and are become nearly insupportable. The total sum during the last year ending 25th March, 1817, expended for the relief of the poor amounts to £5,682 5s. of which sum £5,278 16s. 11d. was raised by rate, being twenty shillings in the pound, on the rental of all lands and houses assessed according to a valuation made in the year 1816. The land pays on an average £1 5s. 7d. per acre to the Poor Rates only. The population of the parish in 1811 was 3,242, and is now estimated at about 3,400, of which number 1,123 are actually receiving Parochial relief. The total number of persons rated in the parish book amount to 764, of whom 440 are unable to pay the rate, and 128 are assessed under 2s. to each rate, leaving the burden of this great expenditure to be borne by 196 persons. Your petitioners humbly represent to your honorable House that these distresses do not wholly arise from the present general depression of agriculture and trade, although much increased thereby, but may be traced to progressive causes. In the year 1792 the poor-rates amounted to £1,240 5s. 9d., since which time they have been rapidly increasing, so that from 1792 to 1800 the average annual amount was £2,000; from 1800 to 1812, £3,160; from 1812 to the present time, £4,275; although the population has not materially increased during those periods. Your petitioners do not presume to point out the causes which have produced these disastrous results. They are too complicated, and embrace too many objects to be brought within the

limits of this petition. Your petitioners represent to your honorable House that the expenses attending the removal of paupers, and the law suits respecting settlements, form no inconsiderable items in the annual expenditure of the parish. Your petitioners are bound in justice to the poor of this parish to state to your honourable House that they have borne the great distress and privation with the most exemplary patience, and have conducted themselves in a peaceable and becoming manner. Your petitioners therefore humbly request that your honorable House will be pleased to take the premises into your consideration, and they entreat that in your wisdom you will provide such a remedy as you shall think proper."

The future, however, was no more promising than the past, so great was the depression of trade throughout the kingdom. Discontent and distress universally prevailed, and to endeavour to allay the general uneasiness in the town, it was considered highly desirable to find employment of some kind for those who were out of work. With this view a parish meeting was called, when it was decided to enter into the manufacture of linen, the resolution stating:—

"That as there are many of the industrious poor in this town who have no regular employment, it is highly expedient that the parish exert itself to procure employment for those in want of it, in some way likely to be permanent and capable in general of affording to the labourer a maintenance for himself and his family. It is resolved that the manufacture of different kinds of linen is, upon the whole, the most eligible way of attempting to provide such employment, and that a sum of money not exceeding £500 be borrowed on the security of the parish rates. The overseers also suggested the propriety of establishing schools for girls from the age of 6 to 14 years, and they also proposed a similar school for lads, providing work can be found for them to do; they thought the manufacturing of sacks might answer the purpose."

In 1818 the poor rate was 19s. in the pound, little or no improvement in the state of the parish having taken place. In 1819 things were a little worse, the rate being 21s. in the pound, and a Vestry meeting was called:—

"To take into consideration the state of the unemployed poor, and the best mode of furnishing them with employment, and also to consider the most effectual manner of relieving the present heavy and increasing burdens of the parish."

The only record we have of the proceedings of the Vestry is the appointment of a committee, who appear to have employed the poor "in spade cultivation and stone digging." In 1820 the poor rate was 20s. in the pound, and a Select Vestry was established for the purpose of managing the concerns of the poor, agreeable to the Act of 69th of George III. In 1821 the poor rate was 20s. in the pound. In 1822 the Select Vestry made a full report of the state of the parish during the previous two years, showing the expenditure from Lady-day, 1819, to Lady-day, 1820, was £5,523; 1820-21, £5,295 15s. 5d.; 1821-22, £5,290 11s. They also state:—

"Their regret that during the past year (1821) they have not been able to diminish the almost unsupportable burden of the poor-rate, notwithstanding the reduction of the allowance to the poor so as to meet the reduced price of the necessaries of life."

In 1822 there was a decided improvement in the state of affairs, the expenditure being for the parochial year—viz., Lady-day, 1822, to Lady-day, 1823, £4,533 18s. 6d., being 17s. in the pound. In 1823-24 the expenditure was still decreasing, being only £3,772 3s. 8d., or 16s. in the pound. In November of this year the parish retired from business, having been engaged in the "Tammy," mop yarn, and linen manufacture for 24 years. From this time until the introduction of the new Poor Law of 1834 (the foundation of the present system), there does not appear to be any new feature in the records of the parish, the old story still continued, "the enormous expenses of maintaining the poor of this parish." Another petition to Parliament was adopted at a Vestry meeting, held 1st April, 1830, praying for an equalisation of poor rates throughout the kingdom. The following are the amounts of the poor rates from 1823 to the introduction of the new Act:—

1824	15s. in the pound.
1825	16s. „ „ „
1826	19s. „ „ „
1827	18s. „ „ „
1828	19s. „ „ „
1829	20s. „ „ „
1830	21s. „ „ „
1831	21s. „ „ „
1832	20s., and a labour rate at 9d. in the pound.
1833	19s. „ „ „
1834	18s. „ „ „
1835	14s. 6d. „ „

It was doubly unfortunate for Kettering that the rates were so high for the three years prior to the passing of the new Act, for that Act directs "The Commissioners to inquire the expense of the poor belonging to each parish for three years preceding; and to assess to a common fund all expenses attending the formation of the Union, building Workhouses, purchasing loans for such Union, for the future payment of the officers, and for any other expenses incurred for the common use or benefit, in the like proportion as on the annual average of the said three years such relief had cost each such parish separately," whereby the common charges were permanently fixed at a very high rate to the benefit of the other parishes of the Union, who were more favourably situated at that time. The operation of the new Act, however, was, on the whole, very beneficial to this parish, as a few quotations of the rate will show:—

1845	7s. 3d. in the pound.
1846	8s. 9d. „
1847	6s. 9d. „
1848	9s. 9d. „
1849	5s. 10½d. „
1850	4s. 8d. „
1860	4s. 8d. „
1870	3s. 0d. „
1876	1s. 8d. „

The following tables will show the state of the parish with regard to the relief of the poor for the years ending Lady-day, 1801, 1817, and 1877:—

	1801.	1817.	1877.
Population	3011	3400	9500
Amount paid for relief	3844 14 3½	5682 5 0	2301 1 7
Amount in the pound	28s.	20s.	1s. 8d.
Number receiving relief	1200	1123	283
„ of persons rated	550	764	744
„ unable to pay rates	285	440	none
„ ratepayers	265	324	744
Land paid to the poor-rate	...	25s. 7d. per acre.	4s. 2d. per acre.[1]

Actual amount raised by rates from Lady-day, 1876, to Lady-

[1] The amount paid for relief in the year ending Lady-day, 1891, was £1,689 0s. 7½d. with a population of 19,453. The number receiving relief was 429 and the rate 7d.

day, 1877, poor-rate being 1s. 8d. in the pound, Local Board rate 3s. on houses and 9d. on land :—

	£	s.	d.
Poor rate on 533 houses above eight pounds annual value, factories, &c., at 1s. 8d. in the pound	605	19	11
1391 houses under eight pounds annual value	368	12	8
2590 acres of land, at 1s. 8d. in the pound	768	8	0
Railways	558	1	0
	£2301	1	7
Local Board rate on 533 houses above eight pounds annual value, factories, &c., at 3s. in the pound...	1497	14	7
Railway buildings, at 3s. in the pound	63	10	6
1391 houses under eight pounds annual value, at 3s. in the pound.....	659	1	5
2590 acres of land, at 9d. in the pound	345	15	7½
Railways, at 9d. in the pound	235	4	10
	£5102	8	6½

The 2590 acres of land paid to the poor-rate.....	4s. 2d.	per acre.
To the Local Board rate	2s. 8d.	„
Total for the year	6s. 10d.	„
The 1391 houses under eight pounds paid on an average to the poor rate	5s. 3½d.	each.
To the Local Board rate	9s. 5½d.	„
Total average for the year for each cottage	14s. 9d.	

This includes not only the poor and Local Board rates, but highway, lighting and watching, Burial Board, sewage works, and all interest of borrowed money on the security of the rates ; indeed every item of parochial expenditure for the year ending Lady-day 1877.

In comparing the rate in the pound one year with another it must be borne in mind that, although it may give an approximate result, an allowance must be made for the mode of assessment at different periods, and previous to the passing of the "Small Tenements Rating Act," in 1848, nearly the whole of the cottages in the town were excused from paying rates; take, for instance, the year 1845. The rates amounted to 7s. 3d. in the pound, the number of houses to about 1,000, 600 of which did not pay rates. The assessment amounted to £4,066 11s. 11½d. The sum actually raised was £3,337 15s. 1d. Amount excused, £728 16s. 10½d. If the cottages had paid then as now, the rates instead of being 7s. 3d., would have been 6s.

CHAPTER III.

Present Government.

For many matters, other than the maintenance of the poor, the Vestry still continued to be the governing body, and at a meeting held on 27th March, 1862, it appointed four Overseers, two Surveyors of Highways (under the Highway Act, 1835), a Nuisances Removal Committee, twelve in number, and a Sanitary Committee.[1] Many of these Vestry meetings were of a most stormy character, and it was perhaps just as well that by degrees other bodies which must just be mentioned usurped most of its functions.

Thus the first meeting of the Burial Board was held in November, 1859 (the new burial ground being consecrated on 15th May, 1862); the Highway Board, of which Mr. John Wallis was the Kettering waywarden, held its first meeting at the Royal on 10th April, 1863; while the Local Board, which was formed in 1873, has entrusted to it the carrying out of the sanitary provisions of the Public Health Acts with regard to sewers, drains, cleansing streets, supply of water, suppression of nuisances, the regulation of hospitals, and other like matters; and also of the Local Government provisions, which include the regulation of highways, paving and lighting streets and buildings, providing public pleasure grounds, markets, and slaughter-houses, making various bye-laws, and like matters of internal regulation. A School Board, too, consisting of nine members, was formed in 1890, by the order of the Education Department, to deal with the Education question in Kettering.

---

[1] In a report made in 1855 to the General Board of Health, W. Ranger says, "The sanitary arrangements of Kettering are placed in the hands of two surveyors elected annually by the Vestry. There is no salary attached to the office, and gentlemen are chosen to fill it, not so much from any particular taste or fitness to deal with such matters, as to watch over the interests of the ratepayers, and see that the public money is not improperly laid out. The powers they exercise are those of the General Highway Act."

KETTERING
CHURCH
Hugh J. Hallé

PART III.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

CHAPTER I.

Description of the Church.[1]

Kettering is an excellent specimen of the churches peculiar to the district in which it is situate, having lofty spires, with comparatively stunted bodies, so that the former appear, at a distance, as though they were isolated buildings. From the great comparative height of Kettering spire, the body of the Church looks so small that even architects are astonished at the deception, when they inspect the really spacious interior. The great proportion of these Northamptonshire churches bear strong evidence of having been erected by the same designers or workmen; thus, for instance, the string courses of Kettering Church give very closely all the varieties which are to be found upon the neighbouring churches.

The masonry of the Nave and Chancel, excepting the South Aisle of the latter, called "Mr. Sawyer's ile," the western compartment of the Nave on the south side, of course excepting the windows and groins, is of rubble work, and in no way harmonises with the beautiful workmanship of the tower and spire. This is generally characteristic of the Northamptonshire churches. Internally, the Tower masonry from immediately below the Spire corbelling, is rough; but all above the commencement of the Spire is perfect as a specimen of carefully wrought work.

Stone of two distinct colours (the Tower being darker than the Spire), although of the same quality, has given rise to the supposition that the two portions are of different dates; but there is no change of style to justify the supposition.

---

[1] Reprinted chiefly from the Description of Kettering Church, by Robert William Billings. London, 1843.

Proportionally the tower[1] and spire[2] are of nearly equal height, being about 88 feet 8 inches each—exclusive of the vane.

Unfortunately there are no known records of the Church, and the styles of its architecture are, consequently, the only means of approximating its date. There appears to have been a church here long before the present building was erected, as Ranulph de Ferraris was incumbent in 1225.[3] It may be briefly described as now consisting of a western tower, a clerestoried nave, with aisles and north porch, and a chancel with north and south aisles to the western portion. The eastern part of the Chancel (beyond the aisles) and the north doorway under the porch, belong to a church of the Early Decorated Period (about 1300), and all the rest of the building is of the Perpendicular Period, between 1450 and 1500.

Proportionally, the aisles are very wide, being nearly equal to the nave, and the chancel is unusually large, being more than three-fourths the length of the nave. The Tower is placed considerably more to the N.W. than the church (about 32 deg. 1 min.).[4] The Tower and Spire were built before the Nave, as appears from the walls of the latter portion blocking up part of the detail of the eastern buttresses in the Church. These internal buttresses are decorated in exactly the same manner as the external ones, and

---

[1] The peculiar battlemented and castellated appearance of the top of the Tower attracts much notice. This treatment is not of frequent occurrence, but it is to be found also at Oundle, in this county. There is no reason to suppose that this arrangement was ever intended for defensive purposes; it was in all probability a survival in design from the times when defensive turrets were applied to fortified dwellings. The effect of the turrets as part of the composition is exceedingly happy from whatever point of view they are seen.

[2] The Spire has been four times ascended by the crockets: once in 1757 by a soldier, again on 17th March, 1787, by William Hawthorn, a carpenter, 17 years of age, who went up it to see to the weathercock, and again in the summer of 1890 by Joseph Ingram, or "Parachute Joe," of Wellingborough, who went up twice, the first time out of bravado, the second to fetch down the vane, which was out of repair. It was struck by lightning on Monday, 18th July, 1859. It was found necessary in the autumn of 1887 to thoroughly repair the spire, and 31 feet of it was accordingly taken down and rebuilt, the last 11 feet being entirely new work. The spire is now higher than it formerly was, the total height of tower and spire being 178 feet $10\frac{3}{4}$ inches, exclusive of the iron finial and vane—the latter a new ornamented gilded copper, being presented in 1887 by Mrs. Lindsay. The old summit of the spire, nearly 7 feet in height, is set up in the churchyard as a memorial.

[3] As to the probable date of the erection of the first church see p. 7.

[4] The line of the body of the church is about 15 deg. out of due east and west, the north face bearing to the west.

are in fact finished as if the tower was intended to be isolated. But for the large original pointed arch on its eastern side we could not arrive at any other conclusion.

Behind the South side of the Chancel arch is a doorway. From it to the staircase in the South-west corner of Sawyer's Aisle was the platform to the rood loft, or probably a second loft. Of the Screens which separated the Chancel and its Aisles from the Nave we know nothing; but the following extract from Bridges states clearly that there was still another besides the rood screen and that of the South Aisle:—"On the back of the Screen dividing the north ile from the chancel, is the figure of a man with four sons, a woman with four daughters, and behind them a son and a daughter. Above them the following inscription:—'Orate pro aïabus Willielmi Burgis et Johanne Alicie et Elizabeth uxorum ejus et animabus omnium benefactorum suorum Amen.' Under them the following:—'Who so redis mi name shal have godys blyssing and our lady, And my wyfis doo sey the same." [1]

The internal walls of the Church appear to have been generally painted in distemper or body colour work; for about 1840 when rubbing down the walls of the north side, preparatory to a general whitewash, portions of a painting, representing a pilgrim or a saint,[2] appeared. The figure has a scarlet coat and cap, ornamented with cross keys, a green mantle over the coat, and light azure trousers studded with gilt crosses. An angel is holding his right hand, and a dog is against the left leg. The costume is finished by the wallet, with gilt escalloped shells, and the pilgrim's crook in his left hand.

Near the Chancel arch was formerly a brass Chandelier of thirty lights, suspended from the ceiling by ornamental ironwork, having a dove in the centre. This was "the gift of Mrs. Margaretta Jackson, wife to the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Kildare, 1775." In the North Chancel Wall are two brass plates, one of which, facing the Nave, is a Memorial of the Soame family (1752) and the second, facing the north aisle of the Chancel, "A Memorial of what moneys have heretofore been given for the use of the poor."

The whole body of the Church is filled with old-fashioned high-

---

[1] The last fragment of the Church Screen work was used some thirty years ago for the purpose of mending a gap in the hedge of the allotment ground.

[2] The figure was until recently supposed to represent St. James the Greater, but see notes on Restoration in Chapter III. During the Restoration of the Church now in progress many other traces of colour decoration have been discovered.

backed pews,[1] which completely hide the bases of the columns, and in addition to these are a comely array of galleries,[2] which fortunately, from the great width of the aisles, leave the upper part of the columns clear.

The west compartment of the Nave is filled by the singing and organ[3] gallery,[2] formerly upon the lower floor of the Tower. Its railings are still left in the lath and plaster partition separating the Tower from the Nave. It should be mentioned that the lower floor of the Tower was placed there at a comparatively modern period (about 1650) for the singers, and more recently the present gallery was erected. The eastern like the western end has suffered, and in the place of the old altar table with its accompanying sedilia and piscinae, we have a Roman Ionic composition, and the sides of the Chancel wainscoted in character. Then again, to hide the altar fittings from the exterior, a portion of the east window has been blocked up by superannuated tombstones.[4] Perhaps the greatest disfigurement of the interior was the despoilment of the Chancel Arch of its mouldings and columns, making it perfectly plain; and next to this is the mischief committed by the modern glaziers of the Nave, who were allowed, in order to have regular squares, to cut away all the internal half of the tracery cusps.[5]

Bridges states that there were "in most of the windows of the iles broken portraits of saints and bishops"; but all the old glass, excepting a few fragments in the aisles of the Chancel, has disappeared. The only fragment of any importance is in the central compartment of the north-east window of the north aisle of the Chancel, the squares of which are ornamented with a flower. A portion of this glass has been taken out to admit three well-drawn heads (one representing the Virgin, another crowned, and the third

---

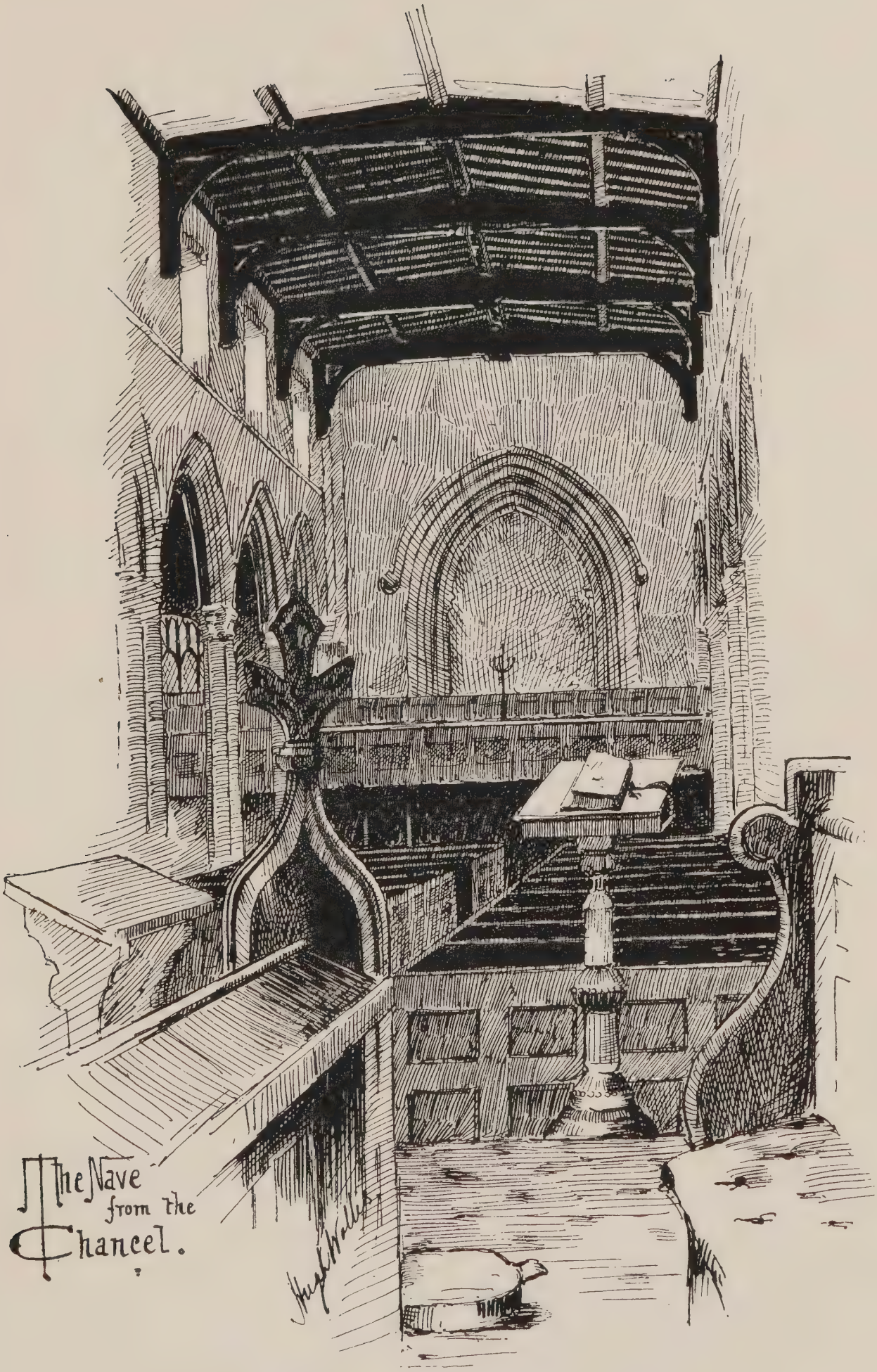
[1] All now cleared away, and modern seats introduced.

[2] These have all been removed during the thorough Restoration of the Church which is now (1890-91) taking place, and in order to leave the western window unobstructed a new bell-ringers' chamber has been constructed higher up in the Tower.

[3] A new organ was opened on July 8th, 1845, and stood in the Northern Chancel Aisle, but it has lately been sold to the Olney Churchwardens.

[4] The Ionic altar fittings have disappeared, and the eastern window, now filled with stained glass (which commemorates the Rev. Henry Corrie), shows its full proportions; and beneath it is an arcaded altar, of Gothic design, which is certainly more in character with the Church than its predecessor.

[5] Remedied during the Restoration.



The Nave from the Chancel.

an Apostle) with an imperfect black letter inscription round them, which appears to run thus: "Virgo deo digna postet mr esto benigna," while beneath it are the words, "Pro statu magistar, Thõs bloxham."

Part of the North Chancel aisle is partitioned off for use as a clergyman's vestry [1] and a niche [2] and piscina in the South-east corner mark the spot where an altar once stood.

In the south or Sawyer's [3] aisle are two reliques—the iron-bound parish chest and an old reading desk with the covers of two books [4] chained to it.

Externally the basement of the Church is, as usual, nearly hidden by the increase of earth resulting from the number of interments which have taken place during several centuries.[5] Many of these our forefathers, who were here interred, have "done the State some service"; if we may judge by the number of tombstones commemorating Kettering men who joined the Duke of Montagu's regiment during the suppression of the rebellion of 1745.[6]

---

[1] The new Vestry erected during the present Restoration on the South side of Sawyer's aisle will take the place of this cupboard-like structure. The Vestry meetings were formerly held in the North Chancel of the Church.

[2] A Niche in the North wall of the North aisle has been brought to light during the Restoration.

[3] This aisle was probably erected by the Edmund Sawyer to whose memory there is a small brass, with "cuts" of himself and his wife in kneeling postures, placed in the south wall. The brass bears the following inscription :—"Edmund Sawyer Esquire, late of this pish. he married Anne, the daughter of Lawrance Goodman of Blaston in ye County of Lecester gent. & had issue by her 15 children. He lived to ye age of 69 yeares, died ye 19th of Septem^{ber}, Ano Dni 1630 & lyes interred in this chancell." Bridges states that "Under the south wall [of Sawyer's aisle] is an ancient tomb without any inscription : on the side and west end are these arms—Three Roman ✕, quartering 1 A bend ragulé 2 Three escallops, 3 A Chevron Ermine." There are other ordinary monumental tablets in the Church, but none of them call for special mention.

[4] In an Inventory of the Church Goods, taken in 1745, the first three articles named are—the "Book of Homilies," "Jewell's Apologie," and Fox's "Book of Martyrs," and it is possible that the chained covers belonged to two of these books.

[5] During the Restoration the earth has been cleared away from the basement, and the basements and foundations restored.

[6] Thus on a tombstone to George Eayre, one of the bell founder's family, and possibly the George Eayre whose name appears on one of the Belfry Tablets, it is recorded that he had been a Cornet in the Duke of Montagu's Regiment of Carabineers during the rebellion in the year 1745. Bridges states that "in the

Until about 1837 (as will be seen from the old map of the town reproduced elsewhere) the view of the west front of the Church was obstructed by a large barn and other unsightly buildings, but their site was in that year purchased with moneys raised by public subscription, the old places were pulled down, and the present western approach made.

The form of the western doorway is peculiar to many of the Northamptonshire churches of the fifteenth century, although none are so large, or so much ornamented as Kettering. The prevailing feature is the inclosure of the arch within a square head, and the repetition round the head of the upper string and panelling of the basement. An angel bearing a shield formerly ornamented the sloping face, of each buttress.

The columns of the doorway of the North Porch[1] have been cut away to fix modern gates, but otherwise it is in perfect condition. Above are three vacant niches with shields on their corbels. The central shield is vacant, the others are charged, one with two keys in saltire, and the other with two swords in saltire, emblematical of SS. Peter and Paul, the patron saints of the Church,[2] and the same patterned shields were, according to Bridges, over the gateway of the ancient parsonage house, but both gateway and house have disappeared. One of the shields, however (two swords in saltire within a quatrefoil), is built into the garden wall of the present Rectory.[3] A cross formerly ornamented the gable of the porch, and its socket still remains, as do those of the crosses formerly on the gables of the east ends of the Nave and Chancel.[4]

There is a room above the Porch, lighted by a small square-headed window in the west wall, with a staircase from the Church.

---

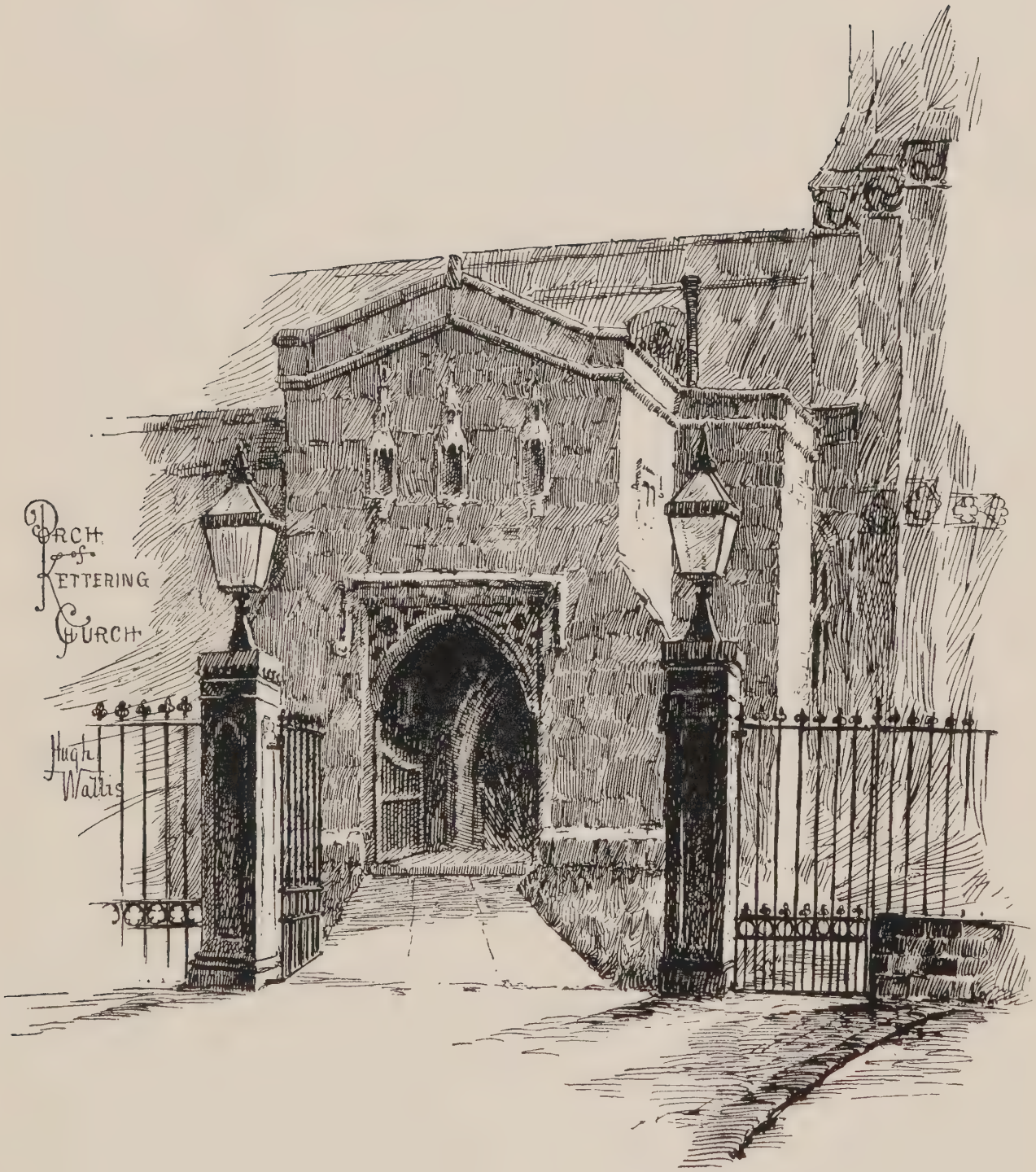
churchyard are two antient tombs, erected as commonly said for the persons concerned in building the steeple."

[1] The South doorway was doubtless used by the occupier of the Abbot's Hall on the site of which the Manor House probably now stands.

[2] The celebration of Kettering Feast commences the first Sunday after 29th June.

[3] The shield is in that portion of the wall which faces the Local Board Room.

[4] The crosses are to be restored.


Porch of Kettering Church
Hugh Wallis

CHAPTER II.

The Bells.

Kettering peal has long been celebrated for its chimes and bell-ringers. The former are now silent, but recording the feats of the latter four inscriptions are attached to the wall of the bell-ringers' compartment in the Tower. The first of these, dated 28th February, 1729, states that "The whole Peal of Grandsire Triples containing 5040 Changes was Rung here in 3 hours and 18 minutes by y^{e} following Persons all of this Parish viz.:—

1. Tho. Howard.
2. Tho. Woodford.
3. John Law.
4. Geo. Eayre.
5. Hen. Parker.
6. Jas. Booth.
7. Jno. Garley.
8. Henry Ladds."

This statement, it seems, was doubted by some envious persons, as the next inscription thus complains: "Since it was asserted our first performance cou'd not be rung in less than 3 hours & a half for an Experiment, & before skilful Judges on y^{e} 12 of April 1731 y^{e} whole peal of 5040 was compleated at 30 changes each minute, in 2 hours, 48 minutes, by the persons underwritten." The names then given are identical with those mentioned in the first inscription, save that for the eighth "Jon^{a} Barlow" is substituted for "Henry Ladds."

A third inscription runs thus:—"Monday 16 April 1759 Was Rung y^{e} whole Peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples In III Hours & VII Minutes," by George Denton, William Hanger, Richard Lane, Anthony Harris, Joseph Warner, Joseph Parker, Daniel Althrop, and John Carrington."

A fourth inscription on marble (the others are on wood) states that the ringers there named performed the 5040 changes in 3 hours 10 mins. on Monday, May 4th, 1840. At the foot of the tablet are these lines:—

"Ye ringers all who prize,
Your health and happiness;
Be sober, merry, wise,
And you'll the same possess."

It has been stated that the whole of the eight bells were cast at Kettering, but from the following inscriptions it will be seen that such was not the case :—

1. PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD. 1714. R.S. (Has on it a shield with Cross Keys—the arms of the See of Peterborough). Diam. 30 in.

2. AT THE SOUND OF MY VOICE LETT THE PEOPLE REIOYCE. R.S. 1714. Diam. 31 in.

3. [1] J. TAYLOR & CO LOUGHBOROUGH LATE OF OXFORD BELL FOUNDERS A.D. 1860. Diam. 34 in.

4. BRYAN HVLL GENT 1714. T. EAYRE HORO. On a circular rim enclosing a shield charged with a bell is "Richard Sanders made this bell." Diam. 35 in.

5. NON VOX SED VOTVM NON MUSICA CORDVLA SED COR 1630. Diam. 38 in. Incised on bell: 1761.

6. THOMAS EAYRE OF KETTERING FOUNDER ANNO DOMINI 1732. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI. Diam. 40½ in. Five coins on the bell.

7. IHS NAZARENUS REX IVDEORUM MISERERE MEI + GLORIA PATRI FILIO ET SPIRITUI SANCTO O THO EAYRE FECIT ANNO DOM 1722. Diam. 45 in.

8. THIS BELL WAS RECAST BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS 1832. WILLM. COOK AND JOHN ROBINSON C WARDENS + GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH. W AND J TAYLOR FOUNDERS OXFORD AND BIDEFORD DEVON. Diam. 52 in.

Prior to 1714 there were five bells only; for on 7th June in that year, at a very full vestry, it was resolved *nem. con.* "That the five Bells now hanging in the steeple be took down and cast into eight."

The work was accomplished by Richard Sanders, of Bromsgrove and his initials "R. S." are to be found upon the present first and second bells, while his name is, as has already been mentioned, to be found on the fourth bell. The old third bell, too, before it was recast in 1860, bore the following inscription: "Richard Sanders of Bromsgrove made us all 1714."

Thomas Eayre appears about this time to have been employed

---

[1] During the Restoration this Bell was, by Mr. Henson's generosity, replaced by a new one, which bears the following inscription :—"Holiness unto the Lord. H. F. Henson, C.C., 1890. John Taylor & Co., Loughborough." The remaining bells were re-hung and re-toned.

about the clock, as his name, "T. Eayre, Horo.," is to be found on the fourth bell; while in 1722 he re-cast the seventh bell.

A vestry meeting held in 1725 caused the ringers much dissatisfaction by resolving that "The Churchwardens shall not allow any money for ringing on any day whatsoever," but the resolution was soon after rescinded.

On 11th September, 1733, it was "Agreed at a Vestry with Mr. Thos. Eayre for to change the 6th Bell, which is faulty, for a new Bell which he has by him. Mr. Eayre is to be allowed after the rate of six pounds per hundred if the new Bell be heavier than the old one, or to allow if lighter & Mr. Eayre is to be at all charges taking down and putting it in again so that the town is to be at no charges."

On November 13th, 1732, it was "Agreed at a Vestry that there shall be a new set of chimes made on the eight Bells to the steeple of Kettering."

"A Case for the Chimes" [1] was ordered the next year.

The following entry respecting a new Clock appears in the Vestry book for 1755: "January 23, 1755, at a Vestry this day appointed to have a new Town Clock it's agreed by us whose names are underwritten have agreed with Mr. Thos. Eayre for a new Clock and not exceeding sixty pounds with a Diall plate to be finished and set up by St. Micaell next."

The clock is dated 1756.

In 1761, Thomas Eayre, according to a tradition current both here and at Gretton, being employed to recast the ring at the latter place, brought the tenor from thence and hung it up here, in exchange for the Fifth bell, cast by Richard Sanders in 1714. An inspection of the present Fifth bell tends to confirm this tradition: it is a bell cast by the Stamford founders in 1630, and, moreover, it has incised upon it the date "1761," that being the year when Eayre re-cast the Gretton bells.

A bell is rung daily at 1 p.m. and at (Curfew) 8 p.m. The Pancake bell (6th) is rung at 11 a.m on Shrove Tuesday.

At the Death-knell four tolls are given for a man, three for a

---

[1] The Chimes have not for many years been in working order, and during the restoration the curious old machinery thereto pertaining was removed from the Tower, the old wooden cylinder or chime barrel being sold by auction at a lumber sale to Mr. J. C. Neal (the contractor employed in the restoration) for 5s. 6d., on 28th February, 1891.

woman, and two for a child, after the knell which is rung on the tenor for adults, on the 7th bell for children of twelve years of age and under.

On Sunday a bell is rung (at 7 a.m. in summer and at 7.30 in winter), after which two bells are chimed. For Divine Service the bells are chimed, then the tenor is raised, the bells are again chimed, after which the tenor is lowered.

The first bell is rung as a summons to Vestry and Parish Meetings.[1]

---

[1] Much of the foregoing information is taken from North's Northamptonshire Bells.

CHAPTER III.

The Restoration.

The thorough restoration which the Church is now undergoing has already been referred to in the footnotes to the description of the building, but the following article, which appeared in the *Kettering Leader and Observer* for 3rd July, 1891, more fully deals with the matter:—

"It was at the end of April, 1890, that the congregation which usually attend the services at the Parish Church at Kettering vacated their usual seats in the body and the gallery of the building, and the main part of the old edifice was then handed over to the contractor for complete restoration, the Corn Exchange being used temporarily for services on Sunday. There have never been two opinions as to the need of the work that has been, and is still being, undertaken; but the only difficulty that has been in the way is that of finance. In the initial stages the Rector and those associated with him took a wise step in engaging Sir Arthur Blomfield, A.R.A., to inspect the church, and prepare a plan of what was needed. This he did, and early in 1890 a start was made to carry out the most urgent work, seven of the thirteen sections being taken up. First of all the galleries which ran round the church were cleared away, and then the old square high-backed pews were removed, and as much of the wood as wanted by the churchwardens was reserved for their use for panelling the new vestries and the new bell-chamber. As soon as the galleries were taken down a careful plan was prepared of all the old tombstones in the church, so that, when they were removed, they could be replaced in the same positions as before. The roof was next stripped, and the lead taken off, and then it was found that the timber there was very rotten, and in a worse condition than was anticipated. With the exception of substituting sound timber in the roof for the rotten wood nothing was done beyond reinstating the old materials. The same thing was done to the north aisle, where it was found that very little of the old wood could be kept, and it

proved a very difficult task to work in the new wood with the old.

"The next important step was the taking down of the bells and sending them to Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, who tuned the old bells, and by Mr. H. F. Henson's generosity were able to replace the faulty third by an entirely new bell. The whole were returned in time to ring a peal at Christmas. The ringing chamber has been removed, and great improvements introduced. The clock was also taken down, repaired, and refixed by Messrs. Leeson, of Birmingham. Four of the old oak columns which formerly supported the organ when it was in the gallery have been utilised in supporting the clock case, as well as some of the old balustrading that was found embedded in the lath and plaster partition between the tower and the nave. During the summer the roofs were got on and the external work pushed on with to allow of the internal work being done in the winter. All the windows on the south side of the nave were taken out, the tracery refixed, and replaced where necessary. This was found to be the worst part of the old building. These windows have now been glazed with tinted cathedral glass, the object being to lessen the glare of the sun and avoid blinds. All this time the oak for the new seats was being prepared; now they have all been fixed in the nave. The level of the present floor is the same as the level of the old floor at the chancel arch. In carrying this level through to the tower it was found that the floor of the tower was 11 inches lower than the floor of the nave, so steps were formed which add in a great measure to the appearance of the nave. Trenches were formed for the introduction of the pipes of the heating apparatus, J. L. Bacon and Co.'s high-pressure system having been adopted, the boiler being affixed right away from the church near to the steps which approach the west door. It should be stated that when the floors were levelled, six inches of concrete were put down, and then the old tombstones were relaid in the aisles in their original position, and the rest of the floor was covered with oak wood blocks. The old plaster on the walls was of necessity retained because traces had been found of old paintings. On each side of the chancel wall have been found representations of angels, and on the north wall in the north aisle is a representation of St. Roch—a saint reputed to have effected cures of the plague by his touch—with a dog beside him, either licking the plague spot on his side, or bringing him bread, and it is thought that this

may have been painted on the wall at the time the plague visited Kettering.

"Reverting again to the exterior of the church, mention might also be made of the vane being refixed and adjusted by Mr. J. Blackburn, of Nottingham. Then the churchyard on the north side has also been lowered by about three feet, to make it level with the church floor. The tombstones were carefully replaced and laid flat. Whilst the lowering of the churchyard was being proceeded with a Papal bulla was found, as well as a few coins of the time of King Charles II. and the Georges, in addition to some tokens of the fifteenth century. During the present summer the earth that lay against the outside of the walls of the church, some three to four feet above the level of the floor, was lowered to six inches below the floor level, and the wall and foundation thus exposed being found rotten and unsafe, they were rebuilt with stonework set in cement, faced with Weldon stone ashlar. Up to the present about £6,000 has been expended, and to complete the scheme upwards of £2,000 is still wanted. Now the nave is again occupied the work to be done in connection with the chancel will be proceeded with. The organ has been sold to the Churchwardens of Olney, and is being removed, and efforts are shortly to be made towards purchasing a new instrument.

"The whole scheme is expected to be carried out before the end of the year. There is now sitting accommodation in the nave for about 600."

In the Parish Magazine for August, 1890, the Rector writes :— "It had been expected by some that the clearing away of the pews might reveal the existence of brasses or other antiquarian curiosities, but the expectation has not been realised. Remembering that the church was completely gutted in the course of the extensive and unhappy alterations made some 70 years ago, it was very unlikely that any such memento would be found. In the churchyard, however, a relic of some interest had come to light; it appeared to be at first an old coin or medal, but on being submitted by Mr. Frere to the authorities of the British Museum it proved to be a specimen of the leaden seals which in olden times were appended to Papal bulls. The name inscribed on the reverse of the seal is that of Innocent VI., who ascended the Papal throne in 1352, and the seal had probably been buried in the churchyard for the greater portion of five centuries and a half."

CHAPTER IV.

The Chantry Chapel.

There was formerly a Chantry Chapel in Kettering. The north Chancel aisle of the Church where the piscinae, which were doubtless once attached to an altar, and two niches for statues still remain, probably formed the Chapel, while the Chamber over the North Porch was, perhaps, occupied by the morrow mass priest. There are two entries in the Chantry Rolls (which were compiled just before the revenues and possessions of Chantry Chapels were seized by the Crown) respecting this Chapel, and the following is an exact copy of such entries:—"The Certificate of Syr John Willm̃s Knight, Edwarde Gryffyts and Richard Cycyll Esquyres & John Mershe gentylman author (ized) amongest other by the kinge maiesties Comyssyon Dated the xiijth Daye of ffebruarye in the second yere of the reigne of our sou̯aigne Lord Edwarde the vjth by the grace of God of Englonde ffrannce & Ierland king defender of the ffaythe & in earthe of the Churche of Englonde & also of Ierland the Supreme hedd. Too sr̃uey all & singuler Colleges Chaunteryes ffree Chappells ffraternyties Brotherhodds Guildes & Salaryes of Stipendarye preests having ppetuities for eu̯ which were in esse or hadd being w^{t}in ffyve yeres next before the iiijth Daye of November Last past. And also all maners Lands Teñts heredytaments & possessyons w^{t} the goods & Ornaments plate & jewells to the same belonging or appteyning w^{t}in the Countie of Northñ being w^{t}in the Cyrcuyte & Survey of John Mershe ꝑticuler Surveyor there as hereaft^{r} more playnely shall appere.

Kethering	A stypendarye preest there	ffounded & maynteyned ꝑtely w^{t} the devoc̃on of thñbitants of the seyd Town of Ketering whiche ys a Market Towne & ptely w^{t} the Reuenewes of certaine Lands & tenements gyven by Copye of Courte Role to fynde a preest callyd the morow mase to sing ther for euer. Is worth by yere xl^{s}. Rente Resolute xvij^{s} j^{d} ob. Remaynethe Clere—xxij^{s} x^{d} ob. Goods or plate—none.

The other entry, which is very similar, runs thus :—

Ketheryng
found at this sũey and not answered heretofore in the boke of tenthes

One stipendarye prest there foundede and mayntenede ptelie with the devocon of thinhabytanntes of the said towne of Ketheryng Whiche is a m̃ket towne, And ptelye with the Revenues of certen Londes and Tenemttes gyven by copie of Court Roole towardes the finding of a preste cauld the morowe masse p̃ste. The valewe of whiche Loundes amountyth by the yere to xl^{s} whereof In rentis Resolute xvij^{s} j^{d} ob.

Juells oramentes goodes and cattells belonging to the same—nuĩt.

The lands and tenements above referred to were evidently seized by the Crown, as on 10th December, in the 14th year of her reign, Elizabeth granted [1] to William James of London, gentleman, and John Grey of Nettlested, Suffolk, gentleman, and their heirs "All those our lands tenements and fields lying and being in Kettering in our county of Northampton now or late in the tenure or occupation of the Guardians of the Church there or other Inhabitants of Kettering aforesaid or their assigns, before this time for the perpetual sustentation of an obit priest or like uses in the Church of Ketteringe aforesaid given assigned and appointed." A rent of 2d. was reserved to the Crown in respect of the said lands and fields in Kettering.

[1] Pat. Rolls, 14 Eliz., pars 7, m (18) 32.

CHAPTER V.

The Church Endowments.

If Gunton's statement as to the Endowment of the first parish churches in this County may be taken as correct, Kettering Church doubtless had certain lands assigned to it on its foundation, whenever that may have been.

In 1254, 38 Hen. III., according to Bridges, who quotes from the Cotton MSS., this Rectory, deducting a pension to the Sacrist of Burgh of 3 Marks,[1] was valued at 35 Marks.[2]

In 1535, 26 Hen. VIII. (Dr. Grene being rector), the gross yearly income of the Rectory is given in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* as £37 3s. 11½d. From this was deducted a pension of £2 to the Abbot of Burgh and 10s. 7½d. in procurations and synodals.

At the Dissolution, Henry, according to Gunton, appropriated the advowson of the Church here, but probably left the possessions of the Rectory untouched.

The pension of £2 continued payable and was at the time of the Commonwealth received by the Crown. Soon after it seems to have been granted away, however; for, by an indenture made 10th March, 1672, "Betweene Nathaniell Hornby and John Orton Cittizens and haberdashers of London and Joseph Hornby Cittizen and Goldsmith of London of the one part and Moses Bathurst of london merchant & Beniamine Bathurst then resident in the Citty of Sevill in the kingdome of Spaine brother of the said Moses

---

[1] "The Abbot Martin, (1226-33) a man of great energy assigned many revenues in churches and lands to the work of the sacristy to wit (*inter alia*) From the church of Kettering," 40s.—Sparke's "Historiae Anglicanae Scriptores varii. 1723.

[2] See, however, Cotton MS., Nero D. X., f. 178 b. and f. 182 b., which does not mention the Sacrist and does not appear to be dated. The entry is

Taxa	Decima	Meditas Xme

Ecca de Keteryng de pen xxxv mrc. iij mrc. et di. xxxiij^{s} iiij^{d}

Bathurst of the other part . . . Joseph Hornby Nathaniell Hornby and John Orton . . . granted bargained and sold . . . unto Moses Bathurst & Beniamine Bathurst theire heires and assignes for ever . . . that annual or yearly penc̃on of two pounds of like lawfull monie reserved and Issuing out of & for the Church of Kettering . . . and now or late payd by Thomas Williamson clarke . . ." [1]

It is probable the Rectory Manor was in existence at or soon after the foundation of the Church, but there is no evidence as to this. Be that as it may, however, the returns from the Rectory lands seem to be distinguished from those of the temporal or town lands in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1535, and the rectory manor is now, for it still exists, quite distinct from the Manor of Kettering, of which G. L. Watson, Esq., and the Duke of Buccleuch are now the Lords.

In September, 1562, Anthony Burton, LL.B., Rector of Kettering with the consent of Bishop Scambler, the Ordinary, demised to Edward Watson, Jun., Gent., the Rectory, Parsonage, and Mansion, House of Kettering with all Pastures, Commons, Leets, Courts, Rents, Tithes, &c., thereunto belonging for a term of sixty years at an annual rent of £20. In 1565, Burton granted to the same lessee with the like consent a second lease of the Manor to run from the determination of the former lease, which expired 1st Septr. 1622, during ye term of five score years from thence next immediately following at ye annual rent of £36, and by another lease dated 1st March, 11 Eliz. (1569), the said Anthony Burton did demise to the said Edward Watson the premises aforesaid for the term of eighty years from the determination of the aforesaid leases, namely, from 1st September, 1722, to 1st September, 1802, paying yearly during the said term of eighty years the sum of £40.[2]

The next reference to the Rectorial possessions occurs in the time of the Commonwealth, for amongst the Royalist Composition Papers[3] is the following petition:—

---

[1] Close Rolls, 25 Chas. II., part 12, No. 23. The present Rector pays a fee-farm rent of about £2, which is possibly the rent here referred to.

[2] Bridges' Northamptonshire and "Rockingham Castle and the Watsons."

[3] Royalist Comp. Papers, Series I., Vol. 37, p. 369.

"To the honorable Com^{ttee} at Gouldsmiths Hall for Compounding with Delinquents Sheweth

The humble petic̃on of the Inhabitants of Kettering in y^{e} County of Northampton

That the Rectory or Parsonadge of Kettering in the County of Northt̃on is presentative and wherein hee hath the Cure of Soules that before the Statute of y^{e} 13th Queene Eliz: the Person Patron & ordinary did demise and lease the same for a longer tearme of yeares doubtfull whether yet expired, and the same being at the valew of 150^{li} per Annum to the Lesse thereof the present Incumbent hath only 9^{li} per quarter allowed him, and for this he pays 33^{li} for first fruits upon his institution and induc̃on into the liveing, and 3:10: for tenths, and 40^{s} per annum a penc̃on for y^{e} whole thing unto the Crowne so that vij^{s} et modis it is not worth more than 30^{li}:10: per Annum for serveing the Cure, and the Parsonadge house in this tyme is become very ruinous and in decay, and the outhouses all downe and ready to fall, albeit the patron in this interim have rec̃d a contribuc̃on from many of the Tenants towards the repaire thereof, and yet the Incumbent have no house allowed him to live in.

This being yo^{r} Pet^{s} case and S^{r} Lewis Watson the Patron being now a Delinquent and his estate under Sequestrac̃on

Yo^{r} Petitioners humbly prayeth you would bee pleased to enjoyne him to produce the lease of the sd. Parsonadge made aforesaid whereby the validity and tearme of yeares therein yet in being if any may apear, to the knowledg whereof your Pet^{rs} can no wayes hitherto attayne, and lickewise you would be pleased to order the present Incumbent and his successors parsons of the said Church such a competency of maintenance and support out of the said parsonadge, that they may bee thereby inabled cheerefully to undergoe and performe their for the good of the people of that parish who are ordinarily a 1,000 communicants.

And hee shall pray, &c."

A further reference to the matter occurs in Sir Lewis Watson's Composition Paper,[1] for it is there stated "That he is possessed of the remainder of a like tearme for 60 yeares yet to come (as he alledgeth) of and in the Parsonadge of Ketherin(g) in the said County, holden of the Parson of Ketheringe confirmid by Patron and Ordinarye at the yeerely rent of 36li per annum and was worth before theis troubles ouer and aboue the rent refer ( ) 114li."

Among the endorsements on this paper is the following:—"And for the impropriation of Kethering Sr Lewis Watson making good his title then to have a valluable Consideration for it otherwise not to be admitted to Compound for it but to be restored to the Minister" Also:—"The Comittie not allowing him to Compound for the parsonage of Kethering it being of the valew of 114li per anñ, ther is deducted owt of his fine 228li and Leaves the fine 4312li.

"Ordered this 26 Decemb. 1646."

From other Royalist Composition Documents it appears that the good folk of Kettering (amongst whom the rector was prominent) gave Sir Lewis no peace until he had revised the amount of the rectorial stipend, and on 6th March, 1648, a fine of £600 was ordered to be excused if he settle £60 a year on the Minister during his 80 years' lease of Kettering Rectory, while on 8th March, 1648, it was ordered that all proceedings should be suspended, Sir Lewis having given security to settle Kettering Rectory.

The result of these proceedings is shown by Sir Lewis Watson's "Particular"[2] of his estate, 1650, wherein he says: "The Inheritance of the Advowson of the Church of Kettering out of which there is a lease for 100 years to come made before the Statute the Revenue whereof besides 120li paid yearly to Minister is worth to me 60li." The additional payment to the Minister, however, was not always maintained; while in 4 James II. Francis Sawyer, Rector of Kettering, exhibited a Bill in Chancery against Edward Lord Rockingham for the recovery of the premises, but the said Lord Rockingham's Title to them for the residue of the said 180 years was confirmed. The cause stands in the Record Office Tower in the names of Sawyer v. Earl of Rutland. The Dedimus Bill to the answer is dated in February, 1687."

Later on the Rev. Thomas Allen looked into the matter of the

---

[1] Series II., Vol. 20., Royalist Composition Papers.

[2] "Rockingham Castle and the Watsons," p. 219.

leases, and some little time before his death, in 1755, "filed his Bill against the Honble. Lewis Monson Watson Esq. for the Recovery of the Great Tythes in Kettering."

Some time before taking these proceedings (viz., about 1726-7) Mr. Allen appears to have communicated with White Kennet, Bishop of Peterborough, on the matter, and the Bishop observes that he always "suspected foul dealing."

The clear yearly profits of the living amounting only to £30, it was, many years before the expiration of the said leases, discharged by the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty from the payment of first fruits and tenths.[1]

As regards the Rectory Manor,[2] Bridges says, "The rector of Kettering hath a distinct manor, and takes in a particular part of the town. His court is kept upon the rectory-ground, at Humfrey Althorp's, and hath marks of antiquity in it. The stile of the rectory 24 Eliz. ran thus; 'Ad Curiam Edvardi Watson Jun. Arm. Firmarii manerii Rectoriae & Eccl. paroch. de Kethering quam tenet ad term. annor. nondum praeteritor. ex dimissione Venerabilis viri Anthon. Burton L.L.B. quondam Rectoris Eccl. de Kethering praedict. per Venerab. in Christo Edmund. de Burgo S. Petri Episc. ejusd. loci Ordinar. & Edvardi Watson Sen. Arm. verum & indubitat. Patronum confirmat. ibid. tent. &c. Ric. Wells sursum reddidit &'c."

Later on, however, for instance in 1745, the heading or title of the Stewards' Copies of Admissions runs thus:—

"Rectory Mannor of Kettering in the County of Northampton.

At the Court Baron and Customary Court of the Right Honourable Lewis Earl of Rockingham held at Kettering aforesaid in and for the Manor aforesaid on ffriday the 25th day of October in the Nineteenth year of the Reign of King George the second of Great Britain &c. And in the Year of our Lord 1745 Before Richard ffarer Gentleman Steward there."

---

[1] Bridges.

[2] The Old Rectory Manor included the block of buildings numbered 17 on the old map of Kettering reproduced elsewhere. Some of the buildings have now been enfranchised, but with those exceptions its boundaries are still the same—

Since the leases made by Burton fell in, the Rector for the time being has been Lord of the Rectory Manor.

The award made at the time of the Inclosure in lieu of all Tythes, &c., has already been referred to.

The gross annual value of the living is stated in the Peterborough Diocesan Kalendar for 1890 to be £1,000.

---

viz., Market Hill on the west, Market Street on the north, Churchwalk on the east, and the Churchyard on the south.

CHAPTER VI.

The Advowson and List of Rectors.

The right of presentation to Kettering Rectory was vested in the Abbot and Convent of Peterborough, and with three exceptions was exercised by them, until the Dissolution of Monasteries. The exceptions referred to were those of Geor. Oudeby who was presented by "Joh. Tyndale and Will. Braunchepath, hac vice per concess. Abb. & Conv. de Burgo." The next rector, Joh. Eston, who was presented by the King, "vacant Mon. de Burgo," and Dr. Draycott, who was presented by the "Ep. Linc. rat. advoc. sibi concess. hac vice per Conv. de Burgo."

Henry VIII., according to Gunton, gave the advowson of the Church to his Queen, but if he did so he soon took back his gift, for in 1544 he granted the advowson, as already mentioned, to Sir Wm. Parr, Lord Parr of Horton.

The advowson became again vested in the Crown on the death of Lord Parr in 1546, and on 24th June, 5 Edward VI., the "advowson donation free disposition and right of patronage of the Rectory and Church of Kettering" was granted to William Marquis of Northampton.[1] The advowson must have reverted to the Crown again on the attainder of the Marquis for his share in the plot to place Lady Jane Grey on the throne, for on 24th March, 4 & 5 Phillip & Mary, the advowson of the rectory of Ketteringe was granted to "Thomas Reve and Bullit."[2] In the same year the advowson passed into the hands of Henry Goldeney, and was probably sold to him by Reve and Bullit.

The following is the reference to this sale :—

"xxiiij^{to} Novembris A^{o} Regnor Phi. & Marie R & Regine iiij^{to} & v^{to} Northt. Ketteringe. Rtoria p. annũ valet Clare—xxxiiij^{li} xiij^{s} iiij^{d} decima inde — lxix^{s} iiij^{d}

---

[1] Pat. 5 Edw. VI., pars v. m (6) 36. See also a grant of 4 Edw. VI., No. 7, m (27) 31.

[2] Pat. 4 & 5 Phil. & Mary, part 3, m 7-45.

THOMAS ARGALL

xxiiij^to^ Nouemb. 1557 for henry Goldeney rated at two yeres pc̃hase the money to be p^d^ in hande

xxiiij^to^ die Novembr. 1557 rated for henry Goldeney { Th'aduowson of the parsonadge of Keterynge aforesaid solde to Henry Goldeney at twoo yeres purchase amountythe to..... } LXIX^LI^ xj^s^ viij^d^

JOHN BAKERE EDWARDE WALDEGRAVE." [1]

Goldeney does not appear to have made any presentation, and the advowson was, in 1560, in Queen Elizabeth's hands, for in that year she caused Wm. Todd to be presented.

In 1561 the advowson passed into the hands of Edward Watson, of Rockingham, and the Watson family have held it ever since, George Lewis Watson, Esq., being the present patron.

LIST OF RECTORS.

Ranulph de Ferrarriis	Cl. anno 1225
Mag. Will de Scother	Subd 8 Cal. Sep. 1228
Mag. Rad. de Collingham	Cl. anno 1233
Emanuel de Sauro	Vide p. 8 ante
Mag. Rog. de Rothwell	Cap. 11 Cal. Nov. 1284
Mag. Rog. de Kilkenny	Pbr. 4 Non. Jul. 1330; ob. 12 Cal. Mart. 1346 & sep. int. frat. Praed. North.
Dom. Joh. Oudeby...	
Geor. Oudeby	Pbr. 22nd Dec. 1396
Joh. Eston	Pbr. 20. 1397
Will. Islep	Pbr. 23rd Oct. 1420
Tho. Salesbury[2]	Pbr. 23rd Mart 1446
Mag. Ric. Kere	Cl. 15th Dec. 1460
Mag. Joh. Jeffray	Cl. 29th Jul. 1488
Dom. Rob. Cutt	Cap. 21st Jan. 1493
Mag. Jacob Whitstons, LL.D. ...	7th Aug. 1502

[1] "Liber Secundus de lez Rates ann. 3 & 4 Philippi & Marie."—Harl. MS., 607, f. 135 *b*.

[2] In a footnote in Bridges it is stated that "On the death of Phil de Kilkenny and of his successors, Tho. Salisbury and Ric. Kere, there was given to the convent of Peterborough as a mortuary, an horse with a saddle and bridle."

Mag. Tho. Lark	Cl. 5th Dec. 1512
Mag. Rob. Shereton, S.T.P. ...	11th Jun. 1515
Mag. Simon Grene, S.T.P.	28th Jul. 1529
Mag. Andr. Draycott, Jur., Doct. ...	20th Dec. 1540
Mag. William Todd	Instituted 14th May, 1560, by A. B. P. Parker, at the presentation of Queen Elizabeth—Dr. Draycott having been deprived. On 13th Aug., 1561, Wm. Todd was himself deprived, and Edward Watson presented Anthony Burton
Anthony Burton, L.L.B.	Cl. 12, 1561, d. about 1585 *(Bridges)*
Tho. Harris...	Cl. comp. pro. Primit 28 Maii, 1633
William Spaulden	Signs Register as Rector Sep. 1649
John Maydwell	Instituted 18th Nov. 1651. Ejected 24th Aug. 1662
Thomas Williamson	Instd. "Ult. Dec. 1662." Buried at Kettering, 4th April, 1670
William Fowler	Instd. 2nd Aug. 1670
Samuel Sherwin	Instd. 10th Dec. 1680
Francis Sawyer	Instd. 11th July, 1684. Buried at Kettering, 30th Nov. 1709
Robert Watkin[1]	Instituted 13th March, 1709. Removed from Kettering
Thomas Allen	Instituted 18th May, 1715. Buried at Kettering, 3rd June, 1755

[1] Bridges says that "at the east end of the churchyard, on a freestone altar monument, is this inscription: Hic jacet Maria Watkins, filia natu maxima Ricardi Cutts de Clare in Comitatu Suffolciae Armigeri: Uxor Roberti Watkins hujus Ecclesiae Rectoris, quae ob. Jan. 24, 1712, Aetat 39. Hunc sibi sepulturae locum humiliter exoptavit. Resurgam."

Gilbert Bennet	Instd. 12th July, 1755
Joseph Knight	Instd. 17th July, 1783, d. July, 1814
Brice William Fletcher[1]	Instd. 14th Oct. 1814
Henry Watson	Instd. June, 1827
Richard Vevers, B.D.	Instd. 1829
Henry Corrie, M.D.	Instd. 1838, d. 12th Nov. 1846
Thomas Hellier Madge, M.A. ...	Instd. 1846, d. 27th Nov. 1862, aet. 63
Henry Lindsay, M.A., Hon. Canon of Peterborough (the present Rector)	Instituted 1862, inducted 25th April, 1863

[1] The dates of Institution of the Rectors between 1633-1814, with the exception of Wm. Spaulden, who is not mentioned, are taken from the Libri Institutionum at the Record Office. Most of the earlier Rectors are given on the authority of Bridges, who quotes from the Lincoln Registers.

CHAPTER VII.

The Registers, etc.

The Kettering Church Registers of Births, Marriages, and Deaths commence in the year 1637, and, with the exception of a few pages which have suffered from damp and the edges of some leaves from which the ink has been worn by usage, they are in good order and very legible, although the earlier years are written in Latin.

During the Commonwealth the marriage laws seem to have been curiously varied, and in the year 1653 the following entry occurs:

"William Roberts, the Parrish Register for the towne of Kettering, according to the Act of this present Parliament touching marriages, &c., was chosen the 19th day of September, 1653, and sworn and approved the 23rd of September then next by us,

"John Maunsell,
"John Browne."

Between 1653-58 there are several marriages recorded which were performed by Justices of the Peace. The "Register" seems to have published the "intention of marriage," and the J.P. to have performed it. For instance it is recorded that—

"The intention of marriage between Thomas Webb of Kettering and Ann Baker of ye same hath been published in ye parish church of Kettering three Lord's dayes without any lett or contradicon,"	Upon ye 8 of March Upon ye 15 of March Upon ye 22 of March	1656

And then we find on another page that "Thomas Webb and Ann Baker both of Kettering were marryed on ye ninth day of Aprill 1657 [1] By Jo: Browne Esquire one of the Justices of ye Peace

[1] It must be remembered that the year then ended with March, so that Thos. Webb was married on the month succeeding notice of his "intention."

asigned for ye sayd county According to ye late Act of Parliament on this behalfe made."

The burial register distinguishes by a special mark—the letters "pl"—all those who were thought to have died from the plague. Between 18th July, 1665, when the first of these burials took place, and 20th May in the following year, seventy-eight or eighty persons appear to have died from the disease.

In 1709 and 1710 Edmund Green signs the Registers as Curate. John Tucker does the like in 1755, Joseph Hughes in 1759, Abraham Maddock 1761-70, Wm. Hughes 1770-71, and Joseph Knight 1772-84, in which latter year he signs as rector.

Jotted down in one of the older registers, on a leaf next the cover, is the following memoranda: "Sept. 18 1660 Weighed the 2 silver bowles belonging to the church and the one wayd 14 oz and ½ gt. silver weight and the other wayd 8 oz 1 gt and ½ silver weight."

It is stated that Barbara Viscountess Cullen died here in 1713 in great poverty, and was buried in the chancel of the church, but there is no entry of her burial in the Parish Registers.

Another curate is mentioned in the Calendar of Letters, *temp.* Henry VIII., under date 28th September, 1534: "Richard Pyndar of Kettering co. Northamptonshire, and Robert Lynne ironmonger of the same declare that Sir George Clydrowe, parish priest of Kettering, curate to Dr. Griene parson there and chaplain to the lady Katherine, princess Dowager, spake in September last in the dwellinghouse of Richard Drayton 'that it was a pity the King was not buried in his swaddling clothes, and whosoever would call the Queen that now is queen at Bugden where his master dwells should be knocked to the post.' He said he hoped to see lady Anne brought full low, and we should have no merry world till we had a new change." He said he knew what the Bishop of Canterbury was; "he was a hostler."

Later on, "John Chambreleyne petitions Cromwell as one of the Kings Council to protect him against Thomas Fysh and others who threated him for having caused the arrest 'of Sir George the parish priest of Ketterynge' in accordance with Cromwells letters Commandments which he delivered to Pyndar and Rob: Lyne John Lawe also encourages the priest 'talking to him and going on

his behalfe to Mr. Montagewe Serjeant-at-Lawe.'"[1] How Sir George ultimately fared is not known.

Some of the entries in the Churchwardens' accounts are curious. Thus in 1671 there is an item of 1s. 8d. for the destruction of five hedgehogs. In 1719, side by side with legitimate expenditure, there is a payment "For foxes hedgehogs and sparrow heads £2. 6. 3." In 1747 the churchwardens paid for 190 dozen of sparrows at 2d. per dozen; eleven foxes at 1s. each; seven hedgehogs at 4d. (this last item being below the average, as in 1758 there were 55); and five polecats, sometimes called fulmers, at 4d. apiece.

---

[1] Rockingham Castle and the Watsons.

PART IV.

THE NONCONFORMISTS.

CHAPTER I.

The Society of Friends.

About the years 1657-58 and for some time afterwards, the Friends in this district were bitterly persecuted; but although there are records as to their sufferings at Wellingborough, Burton Latimer, Isham, and Finedon, no special reference appears to be made to Kettering.[1]

There were probably, however, adherents of George Fox in this town soon after 1650, although the first entry respecting Kettering Friends in the Friends' Register, namely, that of the births of Thomas and Mary Cattell, of Ketringe, bears date "1661, III, 8." A month later, namely, in "1661, IV., 2," an entry of the burial of Mary Cattell occurs, while the first marriage (of a Kettering Friend) took place "1665, III., 21" between "George Warner of Kettering and Agnes Hackney of Hampstead."

At first the meetings were held in private houses; but soon after the passing of the Toleration Act in 1689, Meeting Houses were freely erected.

When the first Friends' Meeting House was erected in this town is unknown, but at a Court of the Lords of Kettering Manor held on October 30th, 1735, Thomas Boon of Kettering, John Cattell, William Dodson, Edward Simpkin, and James Boon of Corby, were admitted tenants to certain premises upon trust and con-

[1] It is hardly probable, however, that Kettering Friends were exempt from persecution, if what is printed elsewhere respecting John Browne is at all correct.

fidence that they and their heirs did and should at all times thereafter permit and suffer the premises to be used as a place of worship for the people called Quakers, and for the burial[1] of their dead without rendering any rent or recompense for the same.

The present Meeting House in Northall was rebuilt in 1868, on the site of an older one, which was, no doubt, that referred to in the Admission of 1735 just mentioned.

---

[1] That there was no earlier Friends' Burial Ground is pretty certain from the fact that the Church Registers of the Parish for the early part of the eighteenth century contain an entry of the burial of a "Quaker."

CHAPTER II.

The Independents.

The first entry in the records of the Independent Church is undated, and runs as follows:—"An Account of the names of those who are in church fellowship att Kettering & have ingaged to walk together according to the rules of the gospell under the ministry of Mr. Maydwell[1] pastour there." Following this statement are the names of ninety-five members residing in Kettering, and ninety-one in other places in its vicinity. Amongst the former Thomas Webb and Wm. Wallis are described as elders, and Samuel Baker and John Barwell as deacons.

The Church was probably formed[2] soon after Mr. Maidwell's ejection in 1662, as during his absence from Kettering, caused by the passing of the Five Mile Act in 1665, he addressed several *pastoral* letters to his people at Kettering, exhorting, directing, and cheering them.

Mr. Maidwell for some time preached in his own and other people's houses,[3] and it is not known when the first meeting house was publicly opened, but probably the old thatched building which served that purpose, and was situate at the "bottom of Mrs. Baker's premises near the Market Place," was in use some years before the Toleration Act, and was capable of accommodating 300 or 400 persons.

Mr. Maidwell died on January 9th, 1692, and was succeeded some-

---

[1] See biography, *post.*

[2] It is recorded that in 1676 there were in Kettering 1,350 Conformists, 0 Papists, and 300 Nonconformists.—Record in Religious Census in William Salt Library, Sheffield. The Puritans are said to have had meetings here in 1591. In 1828 a religious census of Kettering was taken by Christopher Jenkinson by order of the Honourable Henry Watson, and there were found to be 1,150 Episcopalians, 1,196 Independents, 640 Baptists, 240 Calvanistic Baptists, 550 Wesleyans, 27 Quakers, and 40 of No Sect.

[3] In 1672, by virtue of a Declaration of Indulgence, John Maydwell applied for and obtained a license to preach at "Widow Cooper's, Kettering."

time before January, 1694, by Mr. Thomas Milway, who came from Bury. The latter's ministry was, however, very short, as he was buried on April 3rd, 1697, at Kettering.

Amongst the members of the Church while Mr. Milway was pastor were Edward Gill, father of Dr. Gill, and Elijah Brine, father of John Brine.

It was, too, on October 29th, 1696, that Mr. William Wallis and six other members left the Church and founded the Baptist cause in Kettering.

A Mr. Wm. Shepherd, at one time minister in the Established Church at Tilbrook, Beds, then pastor of a Dissenting congregation at Oundle, seems to have succeeded Mr. Milway. His ministry, however, must have been short, as he was buried at Kettering on March 21st, 1698, and there is no mention of him in the church books.

The next pastor was Wm. Tery, who is said to have travelled in Holland and Germany, and to have come to Kettering from Hitchin. He appears to have been a popular preacher; but after ministering in the town for eight or nine years he left for London.

On May 5th, 1709, John Wills became pastor, but serious scandals arose and he was discarded about the year 1713. He had adherents—some 32 in number—however, and on leaving the Great Meeting they fitted up a meeting house for him in Goosepasture Lane[1]; but in 1723, if not earlier, he was rejected by his own party, and eventually went to Willingham.

On November 11th, 1714, Thomas Milway, junr., the son of a former pastor, settled here, remaining until March, 1721, when he went to Ipswich at the earnest request of the church there. He died at that place on May 31st, 1724, at the age of 47.

About the year 1715 the Meeting House was "Threatened and Thought to be in Danger of being Pulled down by a Mob (when there was some disturbance given to Meetings in the Country) but was prevented by an Apprehension of its being well guarded

---

[1] At a Church Meeting held on January 3rd and 31st, $17\frac{1}{1}\frac{6}{7}$, a number of members (named) were set aside from the Communion of the Church for associating with Mr. Wills and declining to return to the Church. The list of names (32 in number) of those who thus "sett up a separate assembly" seems to have been compiled in April, 1715; but several of those mentioned were after a while Rec'd again upon an acknowledgment of their fault. Most of the names of those thus excluded are to be found under the Church Covenant drawn by Mr. Wills on July 31st, 1715, and printed elsewhere.

withinside by the People Armed for that purpose, what defence was made I can't say, but no Mischief was done." Other Dissenting bodies were not so fortunate, for during the year many of their places of worship in different parts of the country were burnt or pulled down.

Mr. Milway was succeeded by Mr. Thomas Saunders, of Coventry (a descendant of Lawrence Saunders the Martyr), who entered on his duties here on September 14th, 1721. The congregation so increased under his ministry that it was found necessary in 1723 to build a larger place of worship,[1] and although much altered the building then erected is the one now in use. Mr. Saunders died on July 31st, 1736, in the midst of his life and usefulness.

Mr. Benjamin Boyce, who was a native of Coventry, and was educated for the ministry under Dr. Doddridge, of Northampton, was ordained on May 7th, 1740, and after a very successful ministry of thirty years' duration, died October 24th, 1770, at the age of 54.

On July 30th, 1772,[2] Mr. John Fuller was received into full communion with the church by Letter of Dismission from the Church of Christ in Gravel Lane, London (then under the pastoral care of the Rev. Noah Hill), and on August 6th, 1772, was ordained Pastor of the Church. Dissatisfaction, however, as to his ministry soon arose (notwithstanding the fact that he had been unanimously invited after twelve months' probation), and eventually he resigned his charge in August, 1774, preaching, it is said, his farewell sermon from the words, "See that ye fall not out by the way."

After an interregnum, during which there was much discord, Mr. Thomas Northcote Toller, a student in the Daventry Academy, preached as a supply on October 1st, 1775, when he was not quite twenty years of age, from the text, "Unto you is the word of Salvation sent," and was so appreciated that eventually, after being the stated supply for some time, he was ordained on the 28th May, 1778. Then commenced a long and prosperous pastorate which was only terminated by the sudden death of Mr. Toller on 26th February, 1821.

---

[1] The entry referring to it in the Church Book runs thus :—"Being called to London upon ye account of building a new place for worship we had no Church Meeting while May 2, 1723." The meeting mentioned before that date was January 1st, $17\frac{2}{2}\frac{2}{3}$. The building was erected on the site of some old cottages.

[2] The last of the Elders had died before this date and the church then had four deacons only. The salary of the minister was about this time raised from £60 to £75 per annum.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY
LIBRARY

He was succeeded in October, 1821, by his eldest son, the Rev Thomas Toller, who was, just before his father's death, invited to leave his charge at Wem, in Shropshire, to become assistant minister at Kettering.

In 1849[1] considerable alterations were made in the Meeting House, or "Great Meeting," as it used to be called, and a new vestry, and new schoolrooms and class-rooms, and a house for the caretaker were erected.[2] The old sounding board over the pulpit disappeared before the alterations of 1849, while a brass chandelier, given by a London gentleman in 1723, has also gone. The additions were made at the west end of the Chapel, and two large windows which used to be on either side of the old pulpit were, as a consequence, blocked up. There are now at that end two marble tablets to the Tollers—father and son—one on each side of the pulpit. The building has been somewhat altered externally, especially on the north side, where two towers have been erected, but internally it still has the old-fashioned pews and galleries.

In July, 1871, the jubilee of Mr. Toller's ministry was celebrated, and in September, 1875—the hundredth anniversary of the settlement of his father in Kettering—he retired from the pastorate.[3]

Mr. Thomas Toller was succeeded by the Rev. Ebenezer Hinchcliffe Higgins, who left Kettering in June, 1878, to become pastor of a church at Greenwich.

In January, 1879, the present pastor, the Rev. John Meredith Watson (who was trained at Belfast, entered upon the ministry in 1859, and had for twelve years before coming to Kettering laboured at Mere, Wiltshire), undertook the pastoral charge.

During Mr. Watson's ministry the commodious Sunday Schools in connection with this Church, situate in Meeting Lane and known as Toller Schools, were built at a cost of £3,400, which has been defrayed by the congregation and their friends. The foundation-stone was laid on 26th September, 1883, by the Rev. Thos. Toller, and the schools were opened on 4th August, 1884.[4]

---

[1] The Chapel was re-opened by Rev. John Angell James.

[2] There is at the back of the building, or rather on its south side, a small burial ground, which, although still in existence, has not been used for interments for some time.

[3] For further particulars respecting the jubilee and centenary see Mr. Toller's biography, *post*.

[4] The authorities consulted in the compilation of this chapter include the Church Records, MS. in Dr. Williams' Library, and Coleman's Independent Churches.

CHAPTER III.

The Baptists.

Under date the 29th October, 1696, it is recorded in the old Independent Church Book that: "Mr. W^{m} Wallis formerly a Ruling Elder in this Church taking upon Him to be an Administrat^{r} of Baptisme to some of y^{e} Members of this Church, agst whom it was prov'd in a Church Assembly y^{t} He had no Right and power so to do, desir'd his Dismission, wh^{ch} was Granted Him, & accordingly He was dismissed frõ being an Elder & Member in this Church of Christ. Samuell Brigstock, Sarah Billing, John Wyman, & Mary Wyman, Anthony Graves & Jane his wife, All of them being Anabaptists & deserting y^{e} Ministry & Coñunion of the church, in Adherence to W^{m} Wallis, the Church declared They were no more under its Care & watch, but had removed themselves by their own careless relinquishing y^{e} Church."

The result of the secession was that those dismissed chose Mr. Wallis as their Pastor, formed a Baptist Church in Kettering, and met together for worship in a small house in Bayley's Yard, Newland Street.

Beyond the paragraph already quoted, there are no written records as to the formation of the Church or Mr. Wallis's ministry, but he was living in 1709, as in that year it is stated that a sermon preached by him on Gen. iii. 9, "Adam, where art thou?" resulted in the conversion of Dr. John Gill, who used to speak of Mr. Wallis as his spiritual father.

After the decease of Mr. Wm. Wallis, in probably 1715 or 1716, his son, Mr. Thomas Wallis, became pastor. It was in the latter's time that Mr. Gill became a member of the Church, and was called to the ministry. The writer of the Doctor's life says that he was baptized by Mr. Thomas Wallis, "by immersion in a river in the sight of many spectators," on November 1st, 1716.

Mr. John Brine, too, was baptized about 1718, and his name, probably in his own handwriting, appears on an old sheet contain-

ing a list of the members of Mr. Thomas Wallis's Church at that time.

* * * * * * *

On being dismissed by the Great Meeting, Mr. John Wills, as already recorded, preached for a time to his adherents at a new Meeting in Goosepasture Lane, and in the old Church Book, under date 1715, July 31st, is the following entry, made by Mr. Wills :—

"The church agreed to y^e^ following covenant & subscribed y^t^ according to y^e^ order of y^e^ gospell

"We In y^e^ presence of our Lord Jesus his Angels & people give ourselves to the Lord and to one another In y^e^ Lord Solemnly promising in y^e^ aforesaid awfull presence to walk with our Lord and King & one another in y^e^ observation of all gospell ordinances and y^e^ discharge of all relative dutys In this house of God and elsewhere (occasionally) as ye Lord shall enable us

"John Wills Pastour [Dismissed[1]]
"Tho. Webb, "Tho. Arnold } Elders
"Tho. Leigh, "Jno. Goodwin } Deacons."

[Then follows a list of members.][2]

As on January 23rd, 172¾, mention is made of a Mr. Wilson being with the Goosepasture Lane Meeting as a probationer, it is evident that Mr. Wills had been rejected by his adherents and left Kettering before that date.

While Mr. Wilson was with the people in Goosepasture Lane as a probationer, it was at a Church Meeting held on Jany 23rd, 172¾, "agreed to receive John Wymond, John Iliff, Edward Stanley, Thomas Benford, Katherine Iliff, Mary Harison, & Elizabeth Whitlock, who were Dismissed, to full Communion with us from Mr. Wallis's people, and they signified their acceptance of Communion with us." Why they were thus dismissed is quite unknown.

Soon after the incident, viz., on 30th April, 1724, Mr. Wilson was chosen pastor of the people in Goosepasture Lane, and appears to have drawn a new and elaborate church covenant which was entered in the Church Book.

---

[1] Written by a later hand.

[2] When he left the Great Meeting Mr. Wills took with him the old Independent Church Book, and as his followers ultimately joined the Baptists, the book passed into and is still in the hands of that denomination.

All this while, and until his death on December 15th, 1726, Mr. Thomas Wallis continued to minister to the people in Bayley's Yard. After the death of Mr. Wallis, however, his people met with many discouragements—the two or three ministers who preached to them for a short time not being acceptable.

At the same time the people in Goosepasture Lane were, the major part of them, become Baptists, as Wilson's covenant, already referred to, clearly shows. The people in Bayley's Yard, therefore, about the time of the death of Mr. Wilson; or the coming of his successor, Mr. Hanwell, probably the latter, gave up their Meeting House and joined the people in Goosepasture Lane upon an open communion.

Mr. Robert Hanwell (or Hennell as he writes his name) was a member of Mr. Noble's Church in London, and came to Kettering about the end of the year 1729, and as his "explanation" of Mr. Wilson's covenant was signed on November 5th, 1729, it is probable Mr. Wilson died[1] at the commencement of that year.

On March 10th, $17\frac{29}{30}$, Mr. Hanwell was ordained pastor, and it was probably Mr. Hanwell who, before writing the "explanation" of the covenant, wrote in the old church book, "All Befor this We haue nothing to dow with But what follows in the following Part ot the Booke." He would seem by these words to imply that all past differences, whether as regarded any feeling which might have existed between the united churches or as regarded Mr. Wills's actions, should all be forgotten and a fresh beginning made.

In the seventh article of Mr. Hanwell's covenant mention is made of John Wymond's decease, and it is intimated that he left something to the Church for the support of the ministry, but owing it is said to the action of his son the Church never enjoyed it.

During the latter part of Mr. Hennell's ministry the Church seems to have been at a very low ebb. Not a single member was added between May 6th, 1744, and April 5th, 1752; indeed at the latter date the membership appears to have been less than twenty in number.

Mr. Hennell died in September, 1749, and was succeeded by Mr. John Brown, who came to Kettering in 1751, and was ordained on July 9th, 1752, Doctor Gill and Mr. Brine preaching on the occasion.

In April, 1753, a Mr. Wm. Eltringham was "called to the

---

[1] A John Wilson was buried April 24th, 1728.

ministry" by the Church. He was a Pædobaptist; but as he proved a "furious Zealot," wrote several pamphlets, and advanced many untruths of the Baptists, they were obliged to separate him from them about four years after they sent him out.

In 1761, John Satchell withdrew from the Church, as mentioned elsewhere, and formed a small church of his own.

From the time when the churches were united, in 1729, an open communion[1] had been practised; but in 1765 it was agreed to receive no more into the Church until they were baptized by immersion, and upon a confession of faith, and in May, 1768, Mr. Brown redrew the Covenant, which was duly subscribed, the membership being about 37.

From the year 1729 the congregation had met in Goosepasture Lane, but about this time (1768) Mr. Brown was very desirous of having a burial ground; and as there was no ground adjoining their place of worship he proposed that the congregation should purchase a piece of ground in the town. Just before this—viz., on 4th November, 1767—two of the houses left by Mr. Job Davenport, as mentioned elsewhere, were burnt down, and the authorities, finding that the remainder required much repairing, resolved to sell them and apply the proceeds of the sale, and the insurance money received from the Sun Fire Office, in some other way; and they were, therefore, only too glad to accept a generous proposal of Mr. Beeby Wallis that they should pay him the said proceeds (£139 14s. 9d.) as purchase-money for his house, warehouse, and garden in Gold Street (then sometimes called Newlands), which were worth some £350, and which he agreed to devise to them by his will. The premises were in a very suitable position for a place of worship, and there was land attached available for a burial ground. Accordingly, in 1769, the shell of the old meeting house was sold for £72—the old galleries and pews being used in fitting up Mr. Wallis's warehouse as a Meeting House, and the proceeds of the sale were applied in like manner.

In March, 1770, however, a difference arose between pastor and congregation over a trifling matter, and resulted in Mr. Brown fitting up a new meeting house in the town, where he continued to preach to a small congregation (partly composed of the friends of the Rev. Abraham Maddock, who is referred to elsewhere) until

---

[1] Before that date the Bayley Yard congregation doubtless had a strict communion.

about 1786, when he suddenly gave up preaching, sold his meeting house, and went to London, while the church which he had formed was dissolved, its members joining other churches.

In the meanwhile the Baptist Church meeting "near Newland Pond" kept together, and Mr. Brown was succeeded by Mr. George Moreton, who came to Kettering from Arnsley in 1771, and was ordained on the 20th of November in that year.

In 1777 Mr. Moreton had a sharp attack of inflammation, the effects of which not passing away, and preventing him from preaching, he resigned the pastorate in August, 1779.

In October, 1782, Mr. Andrew Fuller came to Kettering from Soham, and on 7th October, 1783, was ordained Pastor of the Church.

In 1786, the Meeting House was enlarged by carrying out the front; the expense, about £130, being defrayed by the congregation.

On 2nd April, 1792, Mr. Beeby Wallis died, in the 58th year of his age. For 24 years out of the 29 which he had been a member of the Church he filled the office of deacon. "He was a man greatly respected and beloved in the Church. He had always been a great blessing to them, but especially during the time that they were destitute of a pastor."[1]

At the end of 1795, Mr. John Satchell, who had seceded in 1761, and several of his friends agreeing to break up their congregation, Mr. Satchell wished to rejoin the Church, and was re-admitted at the beginning of 1796.

On May 1st, 1800, Sir Egerton Leigh became a member; but a church being formed at Little Harborough on 3rd December in the same year, he was honourably dismissed, or rather allowed to unite with them.

Towards the close of 1804 it was resolved to enlarge the chapel 18 feet on the west side, to raise the walls 4 feet and new roof it, so that in April, 1805, the place was roofless and the congregation worshipped morning and afternoon at the Methodist Chapel. "The

---

[1] Mr. Beeby Wallis, who left no issue, was a grandson of Mr. Thomas Wallis, the second pastor of the Church. His father, Mr. William Wallis, joined the Church on 25th May, 1752, and was "an eminently wise and godly man, and a great encourager of the cause of Christ." William Wallis died on 12th October, 1757, and Mr. John Brown preached a sermon at his interment from Romans viii. 38, 39, which was printed in 1758, and at the end of which some account of him is given. A copy of this sermon is to be seen at the British Museum.

monthly Lord's Day Evening Lectures at Mr. Toller's meeting. Week day meetings at the Chapel."

In 1815, "May 7th, Lord's Day Morning, half-past Eleven, entered into the joy of his Lord, our very dear and highly loved Pastor, Mr. Andrew Fuller."[1] His last sermon was preached on Sunday afternoon, 2nd April, 1815, from Isaiah lv. 1, 2; but his death was hardly unexpected, as he had been failing for some years. He was buried on 15th May, in the Meeting Burial Ground, and Dr. Ryland, of Bristol, preached the Funeral Sermon from Romans vii. 10 (a text chosen by Mr. Fuller for that purpose), and Mr. Robert Hall delivered the oration in the pulpit.

During Mr. Fuller's pastorate the Church much prospered—no less than 232 members being received during that period.

For three years prior to Mr. Fuller's death, Mr. John Keen Hall (a relative of the Rev. Robert Hall, of Leicester) had been engaged by Mr. Fuller as his assistant, and on the decease of the latter, was requested to continue his services for a time, and eventually, in the autumn of 1815. was invited by a majority of the members to take the pastoral office.

It was a formidable undertaking for anyone to become the immediate successor of such a man as Andrew Fuller, but, after much deliberation, Mr. Hall, in a letter dated 7th October, 1815, signified his acceptance of the pastorate, and was publicly ordained on the 8th November, 1815. The entry in the church books of his name as a member runs thus:—"1815 Nov. 23. J. K. Hall, by dismission from the Particular Baptist Church at Arnsby. Mr. Hall had been previously elected, & ordained, Pastor over this Church."

In November, 1822, Mr. John Jenkinson was admitted into the Church, and it was soon found that he had some preaching talent, which ere long he began to exercise.

A "different strain of preaching" was adopted by Mr. Jenkinson from that of Mr. Hall, and criticisms respecting the same and the line of action subsequently taken by Mr. Jenkinson and a certain section of the Church which supported him, led to a rupture about the commencement of 1824, when Mr. Jenkinson, followed by his adherents, withdrew from the Baptist Church and formed a Church of their own. Mr. Jenkinson was chosen Pastor of such Church, and its meetings were held for many years in a building near the present Wesleyan Chapel, known as Ebenezer Chapel. Mr. Jenkin-

---

[1] See biography, *post.*

son eventually went to Oakham, his church, on his departure, being dispersed and the meeting house altered and turned into a shoe factory.[1]

The affair naturally gave much concern to Mr. Hall, and he thought of resigning, but owing to the very cordial resolution passed by, and the letters sent to him by the Church in February, 1824, he consented to remain with them.[2]

Mr. Hall died on 18th April, 1829, and was buried in the Burial Ground of the Baptist Church.

The same year Mr. William Robinson[3] was chosen as Mr. Hall's successor, and remained in Kettering till 1852, when he removed to St. Andrew's Chapel, Cambridge.

Mr. Robinson was followed by Mr. James Mursell, who, in March, 1853, accepted the Pastorate of the Church.

About 1860, during Mr. Mursell's ministry, it was decided to pull down the old chapel,[4] which stood behind some ancient cottages in Gold Street, and was known as the "Little Meeting," in contra-distinction to the Independent Chapel, or "Great Meeting." The old cottages, therefore, having been pulled down, the present chapel was erected between May, 1860, and September, 1861, and stands partly on their site and partly on the site of the old building. It was opened on Tuesday, September 24th, 1861, the local ministers,

---

[1] During his stay in Kettering Mr. Jenkinson took a great interest in the religious and political controversies of the time, and engaged in many pamphlet wars with the clergy and others in Kettering and its vicinity. He also, with what would seem to be marvellous patience, produced a Manuscript Monthly Magazine, entitled "The Kettering Magazine: A MS. Periodical," a copy of which was circulated amongst a given number of subscribers, who each paid a halfpenny for its perusal. It was carried on for some years and many of the magazines are now in the possession of Mr. Charles Pollard of this town. He eventually returned to and died at Kettering.

[2] A full account of this unfortunate affair is given in "A Letter to J. C. Gotch, Esquire, of Kettering, occasioned by Mr. Jenkinson's Letter. Kettering. T. Dash, 1829." The letter is dated January 12th, 1829, and is signed by George Wallis.

[3] *Vide* biography, *post.*

[4] A visitor at Kettering during the Baptist Jubilee, writing in the *Baptist Reporter* (vol., i. p. 220), thus describes the old chapel:—"An old Nonconformist-looking sort of a place; not large, and rather low. The pulpit is at the west end, between two very large circular windows, shaded by immense green curtains; on each side of it is a tablet—one to the memory of Andrew Fuller, the other to John Keen Hall; before it is a large table pew, such as we are wont to see in an old meeting-house."

as well as the Reverends J. P. Mursell, W. Robinson, and Andrew and William Fuller (sons of Andrew Fuller) taking part in the services. The chapel seems at this time to have received its present name of Fuller Chapel. Its architect was Mr. Edward Sharman, of Wellingborough, and its style may be said to be "Lombardic, with Gothic feeling in the details. The front is built entirely of Ancaster stone, ornamented by a pediment, with a one-storied porch, the whole enriched with coloured tiles, and some vigorous and appropriate carving."[1] The building, with its galleries, will seat about 850 people, and its cost was about £4,000.

In January, 1870, after a very successful and useful ministry of seventeen years' duration, Mr. Mursell[2] removed from Kettering at the invitation of the Hallfield Baptist Church, Bradford.

He was succeeded by Mr. John Brown Myers, now Association Secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society, who filled the pastoral office from March 22nd, 1870, till August, 1879, the Fuller Sunday Schools adjoining the chapel being erected during the latter year.

After two intervals and another pastorate, the Rev. Samuel George Woodrow,[3] a native of Downton, Wilts, and at the time pastor of the Charlotte Chapel, Edinburgh, accepted an invitation of the Kettering Church given in January, 1888. Mr. Woodrow did not remain in Kettering more than two years, however, as he resigned the pastorate and left the town in April, 1890.

In 1891 the Rev. Thomas Phillips, B.A., of Bangor College, and a native of Rhydwilym, co. Pembroke, accepted an invitation to the pastorate, and preached for the first time as pastor on 5th July, 1891. The foundation stones of a new Baptist School Chapel, in Nelson Street, were laid on 16th July, 1891, on which day Mr. Phillips' ordination services were held.[4]

The Calvinistic Baptists

have a Chapel in Wadcroft, which was erected in 1866, by Mr. James Pain, of Great Oakley.

---

[1] Newspaper report of the opening.

[2] See biography, *post*.

[3] A biographical sketch of Mr. Woodrow, with portrait, appeared in the *Christian Age* for January 22nd, 1890.

[4] This Chapter is compiled chiefly from the Records of the Church.

CHAPTER IV.

The Wesleyan Methodists.

Messrs. T. Gill and R. Finney were circuit ministers here in 1798 and since then there has been an unbroken chain, but it is not known if there were ministers here before that date.

The present chapel, in Silver Street, was erected in 1867. Prior to that date the Wesleyans worshipped in the building, still standing, at the rear of Messrs. Hipwell's stores in the Horse-market, and which has now been converted into two stories, the upper of which is known as the Church Room.

The little disused graveyard belonging to the Wesleyans was probably purchased about the beginning of the century. It is to be found at the back of the building[1] in Dalkeith Place, formerly used as the Wesleyan Sunday-school, and consists of a small piece of grass-grown land surrounded by buildings whose windows entirely overlook it. There are some eight gravestones still standing. The earliest bears date January 31st, 1826, the latest March 20th, 1858.

The Tordoff Schools in School Lane were erected in 1875, and the Rockingham Road Schools in 1880.

The Primitive Methodists'

Chapel, in Grange Road, was erected about twenty years since.

---

[1] A stone over the door at the back states that it was "Built 1838; enlarged 1855." The building is now used as a private day-school, and as a lodge for the Kettering Freemasons.

PART V.

ENDOWMENTS AND CHARITIES.

CHAPTER I.

Kettering Grammar School.

The date of the foundation of this school, and the source of the means wherewith it was first endowed, are unknown, unless, indeed, it may be concluded from the wording of a deed executed in 1626, and which will shortly be referred to, that the school was founded in that year by the King's Trustees.

In 1635, amongst the notes by Sir John Lambe,[1] respecting clergymen who are "inconformable," or of bad life, and written for the information of the Vicar-General on his metropolitical visitation of the diocese of Peterborough, mention is made of a schoolmaster's name—viz., "Kettering, Mr. Seiton, schoolmaster."

The accusation seems to have been unjust, however, for the Archbishop, or his representative, after looking into the matter, about 8th May, when he was in this district, writes: "The schoolmaster of Kettering, one Mr. Seaton (who was complained of unto me for a non-conformitan) doth protest that he is absolutely conformable and zealously given that way, and no man could be found that would accuse him in any particular."[2]

In 1653, during the time of the Commonwealth, there was "A Survey of Certaine lands houses lying and being in the Towne of Kettering in the County of Northampton parcell of the possessions of

---

[1] Sir John Lambe was, it appears, a Rothwell man.

[2] An "Abstract of the Metropolitical Visitation of the Most Reverend Father in God William, by God's Providence Lord Archbishop of Canterbury his Grace, holden in the Year of our Lord God 1635."

FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Charles the late King of which he was seised as in right of the Crowne but now settled on Trustees for ye use of the Commonwealth of England and by them held as of the Mannor of East Greenwich in ffree and common socage by fealtye onleye taken by Gabriell Taylor, Francis Congrave, and John Thorne and by them returned the 23rd day of March 1653." [1]

The Survey included some twenty-six houses, of which the minutest particulars are given—*e.g.*, the school premises are thus described: "Mr. Howett houldeth as Schoole master one house used for the school house and also one other house adjoyning to ye said school containing a hall a parlor and two chambers over them and a garden measuring one rood and ten perches more or less Bounded on the East by Samuell Houldman's house on the West by William Anstie's which is worth upon improvement per Annum 14s. 6d."

The value of all the premises surveyed amounted "to in toto per ann. £26."

At the end of the survey appears the following: "Memorandum that all the aforesaid premises were by Indenture (from sr. John Walter Knt. sr. Thomas Ffullerton and sr. Thomas Trevor Trustees for the late King Charles) bearing date the 17th day of May Anno Dom 1626 graunted unto Sir Lewis Watson of Rockingham in ye County of Northampton Knt. Edmund Sawyer S^{r} of Kettering Esquire Edmund Drury Richard Drawwater of Kettering aforesaid yeoman John Sawyer Edmund Sawyer j^{r} and ffrancis sawyer of Kettering aforesaid Gentleman William Glover and Henry Sparrow of Kettering aforesaid yeoman in trust for the maintenance of a Grammar Schoole in the said towne of Kettering for and during the terme of thirty one years if the said grantees (named) did soe long live paying therefore yearly the yearly rent of xxiis. iid. provided that if five of the said lives should dye that then the fower remaining lives should surrender up the said lease unto ye King or his successors that soe the said lease might be again renewed for twenty-one years longer the four surviving lives having power to nominate five other Townsmen of Kettering in the place of the five deceased."

In certain particulars of the manor given in the State Papers, Domestic Series (Chas. I. (1632 ?), v. 229, No. 104), it is mentioned that, "ffarme Rents there are but two parcells the first whereof was

[1] Parliamentary Surveys, Northampton, 1653. No. 37.

lately graunted to the Towne for the use of the Schole." If the reversion of the inheritance of the premises above mentioned was so granted, the heading of the survey is hardly comprehensible. That the property ultimately came into the hands of the Trustees of the School is apparent, but when it so fell in is not known.

The Rev. William Fowler is mentioned about 1674 as master, in the Wood MS. in the Bodleian Library (D. 11). The extract runs as follows: "Mr. . . . Fowler Mr. of the Free Schoole at Kettering in Coun. Nħap. & Rector, which is onlie titular, for he hath no tithes or Ch. dues—(1674 ?)."[1]

The School is lost sight of again until 1681, on the 5th October of which year an Inquisition was taken at Northampton respecting the properties belonging to and the management of the School. It was found "that from the time whereof the memory of man is not to the contrary there hath been a Free-School in the Town of Kettering in the county of Northampton for the teaching of Latin and English scholars for the youths that do inhabit in the said Town," and that certain Messuages, Cottages, Lands, and Tenements thereafter mentioned had for all the time aforesaid belonged to the said Free School. Further that the rents of the said hereditaments "have been and ought to be employed for the Maintenance of a Schoolmaster there for the Teaching and Instructing of the youths of the said Town in English and Latin." It also appeared that one Samuel Sherwin[2] was then the Schoolmaster, and that he lived in the premises already mentioned. It also appeared that several Trustees for the School had died without appointing others in their stead. The Inquisition came before certain Commissioners appointed under the Great Seal to enquire into lands and moneys given to charitable uses, and they decreed and appointed that the Rt. Hon. Edwd. Lord Rockingham, Sir Roger Norwich, Bart., Sir John Egerton, Bart., Francis Morgan, Esq., Joseph Baker, Abraham Sparrow, Henry Bullock, Thomas Webb, Ralph Soame, Edward Sparrow, and John Ives, jun., parishioners and inhabitants of the town of Kettering, or near adjoining to the same, Overseers and Guardians for the said School. And certain powers were given as to leasing, appointing a new master, and appointing new guardians when and as "it pleased God that six or more of the said Guardians or Overseers of the said School shall die and depart this World."

---

[1] Northamptonshire Notes and Queries, vol. iii., p. 29.

[2] Apparently the Rev. Samuel Sherwin, rector of Kettering 1680-84.

It was also decreed that Samuel Sherwin should remain Schoolmaster during the will and pleasure of the newly-appointed Guardians, that he should inhabit the schoolhouse subject to his repairing it, and presumably, although it is not expressly so stated, that he should receive for his *maintenance* the income from the school property which was to be used for the purpose of teaching "Scholars born or inhabiting in the said town in English and Latin and for none other use intent or purpose."

The finding and decree of the Commissioners is dated 27th January, 1681-2, while the confirmation of the decree by the Court of Chancery bears date 23rd February, 34, Charles II.

Another glimpse of the School is obtained from the following advertisement, which appeared in the *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury* of Thursday, October 31, 1717:—

"At the Free School in Kettering, in Northamptonshire, as the most rational and easie Method of teaching the Latine Tongue, the Rules of the common Grammar concerning Nouns and Verbs, and some useful Rules of Syntax being translated, are taught in English. Also plain Definitions of the Figures both of Grammar and Rhethorick, by R. JONES, A.M.

"Note.— For the Accomodation of a young Nobleman and some Gentlemen's Sons, the School is made convenient with ceiling, chimney, &c."

From this advertisement it would appear that R. Jones, A.M., was Master in 1717,[1] and that the School had not until about that date possessed such conveniences as a ceiling or chimney.

It is probable a Mr. North succeeded Mr. Jones, for the Parish Registers record the burial in January, 1737, of "Mr. North, schoolmaster."

After this occurs another blank, but, "at a meeting held at the George Inn in Kettering on 12th April, 1775, Sir John Palmer, Sir Wm. Dolben, Baronets, John Robinson, Esq., Wm. Roughton and John Goodfellow, the major part of the surviving Guardians and Trustees of Kettering free school, did then and there let and lease out certain lands and tenements for the term of 21 years."

Mr. Warner appears to have been schoolmaster towards the end

---

[1] The Kettering Parish Register verifies this supposition, for amongst the baptisms of 1722 is that of "Jones Eliz. Daughter of the Rev$_d$ Mr. Rich^d Jones Schoolmaster and Sarah his wife bap. Mar. 27."

of the last century, and was succeeded by his son, who had been a sergeant in the army.

The Rev. Jas. Hogg, of Holbeck, near Leeds, was appointed master in 1801. He was born in 1774, and married June 24th, 1803, Miss Mary Roughton, of Kettering. He was a good scholar, but was a somewhat eccentric gentleman, and was noted for the curious punishments he inflicted on his pupils. It is said that he had three old wigs of varying degrees of shabbiness, which boys, according to the heinousness of their offences, were compelled to wear in school hours, while it is stated that incorrigible boys were punished by being sent home without their trousers! In addition to his scholastic duties, Mr. Hogg sometimes did duty in Kettering Church, and in 1803 was appointed curate of Geddington, at a stipend of about £45 per annum. On the death, in 1815, of Mr. Knight (who was vicar of Geddington as well as rector of Kettering), Mr. Hogg obtained the living of Geddington, but, nevertheless, retained the mastership of the school until his death in 1845.

During his long term of office two important events connected with the school history took place, the one being the inclosure of Kettering lands in 1804, already mentioned, and the other the examination and report on the school and school trusts in 1830 by the Charity Commissioners.

The report states that "the master admits as free scholars such boys, being sons of inhabitants of Kettering, as are sent to him, and instructs them in English, and as many of them as require it in Latin." Further, that "for some time after Mr. Hogg became Master the school was attended by about 60 boys, but the number of free scholars had been reduced to between 30 and 40, which reduction he ascribes to the establishment of a National School in the place."

From the report it also appears that writing and arithmetic were taught by an assistant master (who was employed, it was alleged, by the master in menial offices), and it was rather an open question whether a moderate charge should not be made for instruction in those subjects.

At this time the school premises consisted of "a dwelling-house, with outbuildings and a schoolroom, and about half an acre of garden ground, and the school estate, exclusive of 3a. 2r. 19p. of land in the occupation of the master, consisted of the following particulars, viz.:—

Parcels.	Present Tenants.	Yearly Rent. £	s.	d.
Four cottages and 3a. 3r. 28p. of land	Joseph Boyes & Co.	40	0	0
Three cottages and 1a. 3r. 17p. of land	Joseph Loseby	9	9	0
11a. 1r. 38p. of land	John Carrington ...	24	10	2
2a. 3r. 2p. of land	Widow Bamford ...	6	15	0
Thirty-five cottages.....	Sundry tenants	66	14	6
		£147	8	8

The lands and premises," goes on the report, "are all let for terms of 21 years, the rents reserved being fixed on a valuation; and the rents are paid to the master."

Mr. Hogg was succeeded by the Rev. Richard Morton, who had been his curate at Geddington; and when this gentleman not long after was appointed curate at Burton Latimer, the number of boys attending the school had dwindled down to two or three, who were in the habit of walking over to Burton for their lessons!

This last straw seems to have broken the apathy shown by those interested in the school, and bestirring themselves they obtained an entirely new scheme for the school, known as the scheme of 1854. Soon after it came into force, Mr. Morton being presented to the living of Rothwell, resigned the mastership, and the Trustees appointed the Rev. F. Tearle, M.A., of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, as his successor. Under Mr. Tearle the school so quickly became popular that on 13th June, 1856, an appeal was made to the public by the Trustees for funds wherewith to build a new Master's house and school. The appeal was responded to, and the new buildings were at once commenced; a dinner being held at "The Three Cocks" in December, 1856, to commemorate their completion. The cost amounted in all to about £1,740, which sum, by public subscriptions and a great bazaar held in 1859, was all raised by 26th November, 1859.

In 1864, Mr. Tearle left Kettering on his appointment to the head mastership of a Leicester school, and the Rev. Thomas Widdowson, M.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge (who had held the post of second master at the school to the head of which Mr. Tearle had been appointed) was chosen as head master at Kettering school.

The school property has of late years greatly increased in value, and in 1887 a new scheme for the administration of the school and school property was adopted. Under it the Foundation will for the future be administered by a governing body, called the

Governors, consisting of thirteen competent persons duly qualified to discharge the duties of the office, eight to be called Representative Governors (who are to hold office for five years), and five to be called Coöptative Governors. Two of the Representative Governors are to be chosen by Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace acting in and for the Petty Sessional Division of Kettering; and the other six by an electing body consisting of the persons who are for the time being respectively the Guardians of the Poor of the Parish of Kettering, the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish of Kettering, the members of the Local Board of Kettering, and the members of the Burial Board of Kettering. The first Coöptative Governors are eight in number, and hold office for life, but future Coöptative Governors are to be appointed by the general body of Governors for a term of eight years.

Under certain conditions boys between the ages of nine and seventeen years are eligible for admission to the school. Their tuition fees are to be fixed from time to time by the Governors at a rate of not less than £4 nor more than £8 a year for any boy, and the course of study includes the following subjects:—Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic; Geography and History; English Grammar, Composition, and Literature; Mathematics; Latin; Two modern Foreign European Languages; Natural Science with experimental teaching, with special reference to Agriculture and Manufactures; Book Keeping, Land Surveying, Mechanical Drawing, and Mensuration; Drill; and Vocal Music.

The Rev. Thomas Widdowson (appointed in 1864, as already mentioned) is the present head master, and is recognised by the scheme as such.

The fourteenth report of the Charity Commissioners (1870-2) states that the Free School was endowed with "Houses, &c., and 34a. 1r. of land, and that the total rents were £380 9s. 11d.[1] The property has been greatly improved since that date, however."

---

[1] A History of the School, by the late J. Askew Roberts, Esq., which appeared in the *Kettering Observer*, was afterwards reprinted in pamphlet form and from it some of the foregoing particulars are taken.

CHAPTER II.

The Town Charities.

Reprinted, mainly, from the Further Report of the Commissioners for inquiring concerning Charities, and dated 26th June, 1830.

The Church and Town Allotment.

Previous to the inclosure of the open and common fields within the manor and parish of Kettering, a piece of meadow ground called Emmerton Holme,[1] containing 3a. 1r. 37p., and 5½ doles[2] of meadow ground, in a place called Killing Holme and Walcotts, containing about 2a. 3r. 18p., were held as appropriated to the churchwardens and overseers of the poor of Kettering, for the purpose of apprenticing poor children; and a close called the Skirts, containing about three acres,[3] was also held by the churchwardens and overseers for the purpose of distributing the rents thereof at Christmas among the poor not receiving collection, as the minister, churchwardens, and overseers should think proper.

By the Award of the Commissioners of Inclosure, dated the 23rd of November, 1805, they awarded to the rector, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor of the parish of Kettering, and their

---

[1] "Emmerton, or Ladds' Holme, was purchased from one Wm. Ladds, but out of what funds or in what year is not known." The earliest record of it is in the Parish Book, commencing 1671, in which it is stated that "the Rent is to be paid to the Overseers of the Poor for putting out poor people's children." The land was let annually down to the Inclosure in 1803, and the rent duly applied. See, however, Pettifer's Dole, *post.*

[2] It is recorded in the Parish Book, under date 16th December, 1686, that the sums of £60, given by Jas. Cater, and £10, given by Alderman Pack, were directed to be laid out in the purchase of the doles, and in 1687 the doles were first let.

[3] The land called Skirts, or Smockskirts, was "Purchased for the Parish, in 1752, for £28, being a forfeiture for driving distempered cattle through the town, contrary to the Act of Parliament."

successors, two allotments in the Middle Field, containing respectively 8a. 1r. 30p. and 8a. 16p., an allotment on the Hog leys, containing 19 perches, bounded on all sides by roads; and another allotment containing 32 perches, situate in the Nether field, as a compensation for the lands, rights of common and other rights, and interest of the churchwardens and overseers in the lands inclosed.

It appears from the claims made before the Commissioners, and other documents, that the allotments were awarded not only in satisfaction of the apprenticing and poor's land already mentioned, but also of the headlands and balks in the open fields; but the award does not distinguish how much of the allotments was set out on the latter account, or in respect of the apprenticing, or of the poor's land.

The headlands in the open fields appear to have been anciently called indiscriminately by the names of Headlands, Town Headlands, and Church Headlands; and for a very long time before the inclosure those parts of the headlands which lay on each side of a highway or cartway, which passed along the middle thereof, were let every three years, at a town's meeting, to be ploughed or occupied in tillage, and the rents received on that account were paid to the churchwardens, and applied by them with and for the same public purposes as the church rate. The herbage of the balks,[1] or smaller strips of land separating the different parts of the open fields, was also let to individuals for pasturage during those parts of the year when the fields were not generally depastured by the cattle of the proprietors of land at large; but the rents thence arising were not paid to the churchwardens, but to the fieldsmen, or persons employed to drain, fence, and look after the open fields, and were employed by them as, or in aid of, a field rate, levied on the proprietors for expenditure about their common interests. It does not clearly appear from any parish documents how the grass or herbage of the highways, passing along the headlands, was disposed of before the year 1759; though it does appear from such documents that the occupiers of the ploughed parts on each side were interdicted from cutting the grass of the highways; but after

[1] A balk was a strip of unploughed land, in many places not more than one foot in width. In Kettering lordship the balks were wide enough for the passage of a waggon, and served as roads from one part of the field to another. The herbage on them was sold at the church once a year, and the proceeds paid to the fieldsmen.

that year the herbage of the highways was regularly let, and the rents for it were paid to the fieldsmen.

For some years after the inclosure the churchwardens received the rents of the allotments, and applied them towards defraying the expenses attending the inclosure, and in aid of the church rate, and in occasional payments for the purpose of apprenticing children and for the relief of poor persons; but as among the three last-mentioned objects no rule of division or apportionment was laid down or observed, and the circumstance of the allotments having been awarded partly in satisfaction of the balks or smaller strips in the open fields, in which the churchwardens and overseers had never any interest, was overlooked.

In the year 1816 a committee of the parishioners or inhabitants of Kettering was appointed at a Vestry meeting, to investigate the state of the charities in the town, and report thereon; and in the course of their investigation they laboriously inquired into the proportions in which the allotments made to the rector, churchwardens, and overseers ought to be divided, in reference to the several interests combined therein, making use, for that purpose, of the surveys, claims, and other documents which had been produced before the Commissioners of Inclosure; and they recommended that separate accounts should be kept of the portions of the rents applicable to the purpose of apprenticing poor children and for the relief of the poor.

During the course of the investigation, and of the proceedings of the Vestry consequential upon the representations made by the Committee, the proprietors at large of the lands which had been inclosed agreed, at a meeting held for the purpose, by a large majority in number and value, to give up their share of the allotments (in respect of the balks), which, it then appeared, had been improperly awarded to the rector, churchwardens, and overseers, and they consented that such share should be devoted to the purposes on account of which the allotments were set out—viz., the service of the church or contribution to the church rate, and the charity for apprenticing and that for the poor; and the Committee, acting upon that agreement and consent, finally resolved (with the exception of the Rev. W. B. Fletcher, then the rector of Kettering) and reported that the proper division and appropriation of the rents of the allotments was the following—viz., to the churchwardens for the service of the church, $\frac{12}{43}$ds; to the overseers for apprenticing, $\frac{26}{43}$ds; and to the churchwardens and overseers for

distribution among poor persons, $\frac{5}{43}$ds; and the report being afterwards confirmed and adopted at a Vestry meeting, it has since been acted upon as the scale of division.

An objection was raised by the Rev. W. B. Fletcher and others to the appropriation or division recommended by the Committee, as being founded upon the hypothesis that the sides of the headlands only belonged of right to the service of the church, it being, on the other hand, contended by them that the whole of the headlands, including the highway, should be considered as church property;[1] but we incline to think, on consideration of the evidence before the Committee, that their adjudication was correct, with this exception, that, as it seems to us, they overrated the extent or value of that part of the headlands, which was taken up by the highway, adopting, for the purposes of that estimate, a claim laid before the Commissioners of Inclosure of one-half of the headlands as belonging to the proprietors at large, although as it appears, the highway was about seven feet only in width, and the ploughed part of the headlands was computed at nine feet in breadth on each side; but notwithstanding the error thus presumed to exist, we think it would be unwise to disturb the arrangement and mode of division which have now for some time been acquiesced in; especially as the portion at present appropriated to the service of the church could not be increased without the consent of the proprietors of the lands inclosed out of their share of the allotments, in case the question of division were again thrown open, and a new distribution were made.

The Committee ascertained what balances were due on account of the rents of the allotments in respect of the church, the apprenticing charity, and the poor, at Michaelmas, 1818, and we understand those balances were applied in the manner recommended by the Committee; but the accounts for a few years ensuing, during which, it appears, some part of the rents was not paid by the tenants, and other part was received by the then rector, Mr. Fletcher, or his (the rector's) churchwarden, are involved in much confusion, and form part of a subject of dispute between Mr. Fletcher and the parishioners, in which other questions, respecting

---

[1] It seems to have been considered by Mr. Fletcher and other persons that the headlands had, by some means, been specifically appropriated to the actual reparation of the church, and were in the nature of a church estate; but there is no evidence to show that the rents of the parts in tillage were otherwise applied than in the way of contribution to the common burthen or levy for public purposes concerning divine service.

the advance of money for the repairs of the church, and the propriety of some of those repairs, are comprehended. This dispute, we apprehend, it would be very difficult to adjust, and in the absence of Mr. Fletcher, we did not attempt it; and as Mr. Fletcher has ceased to be rector, and has for some time resided at a distance from the parish, we conceive little or no benefit would result from investigation of this part of the subject, although as to the apprenticing charity, and that for the poor, some loss appears to have been sustained during the few years above referred to.

Since Lady-day, 1823, the rents of the allotments have been received by the churchwardens, and have been divided in the proportions recommended by the Committee. One portion has been carried by the churchwardens to their general account; another portion has been applied by the overseers of the poor, as occasions arose, to the apprenticing of children, except that at the time of our inquiry there was a balance in hand of £11 7s. 1¼d.; and the portion for the poor has been distributed with the income of Hunt's Charity, subsequently mentioned.

At the time of our inquiry the allotments were occupied by J. Hobson and F. Robinson as yearly tenants, at the respective rents of £9 and £10; but it was expected that at Lady-day, 1830, when they were to be let afresh, a higher rent, probably at the rate of £1 15s. per acre, would be obtained.

Poor's Allotment.

"An allotment of 9a. 1r. 7p. was set out on the Inclosure for the poor, as a compensation for the privilege which they had used of cutting furze and heath on certain lands taken up and divided on that occasion; and the rent of the allotment, which is let with the concurrence of the parishioners from time to time, and is now occupied by W. Hawthorne, as yearly tenant, at 13*l.* a year, is applied pursuant to a resolution at a vestry meeting, in aid of a fund which was some years ago raised by subscription, for supplying the poor with coals at reduced prices, and which is (1830) managed and administered by J. C. Gotch, esq., of this place."

Cave's Doles.

A rent charge of xxiis. annually issuing out of three doles of meadow land was purchased with the money given by the last will of William Cave. The amount is mentioned in the Parish Book of 1703. In 1704 it is again recorded and ordered to be paid to

the overseers. The meadow land in Killing Holme and Walcotts, out of which it was payable, was in the possession of George Whitlark at the time of the Inclosure; and the money afterwards being charged on Mr. Whitlark's estate was by him paid to the churchwardens, and by them distributed among the poor with Hunt's charity money.

Eady's Charity.

A rent charge of 4*l.* a year, originally payable quarterly, out of the White Hart and one yard land, and now out of the Royal Hotel, in Kettering, was given by Christopher Eady.[1] The sum is paid to the churchwardens, and by them distributed, together with Cave's and Dawsons' Charities, among the poor.

Charity of T. and S. Dawson.

An annuity of £4 is also payable under a donation of Thomas and Sarah Dawson, aided by a contribution from the parish, for the use of the poor not receiving collections, to be given on Christmas Eve. The land on which this annuity was charged was 20 acres in Broomhills, and was at the time of the Inclosure in the hands of Thomas Green, of Warkton.

Bentham's Charity.

An annuity of 10s. a year was given by the Rev. Joseph Bentham, formerly rector of Broughton, to be laid out in bread on the 29th of May to such poor people of Kettering as should come to church on that day; but this charity has long been lost. From the account of Mr. Bentham given by Bridges it would appear that he was made rector of Broughton on 14th January, 1631 (succeeding the famous Robert Bolton), that his living was sequestered on 13th July, 1643, that he was reinstated 29th September, 1660, and died 16th April, 1671.

Hunt's Charity.

Edward Hunt, by will dated 20th October, 1674, bequeathed to the ministers, churchwardens and overseers of the poor of Broughton, Kettering, and Rothwell, and their successors, his two yard lands and one quarter of a yard land, in the fields of Broughton, called Chambers and Hackney's land, then let at £24 per annum, on trust that the trustees, or any four of them (the minister of each of the

---

[1] Possibly the Christopher Eadie mentioned on p. 24.

said places to be of the number), should distribute the rent yearly, as follows:—£10 thereof to the poor of Kettering, to be paid to the minister, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor there, by equal half-yearly portions, on the 10th April and 10th October, and to be by them distributed on the same days, as follows:—To 20 of the poorest widows and aged persons of the town, 2s. a piece, and to 60 other of the poorest widows, aged persons and children, where they should think was most need, 1s. each; and for their care therein the testator gave unto the said minister, churchwardens, and overseers, 6s. 8d. every half-year to pay for their dinner after distribution. The testator also, by his said will, duly provided for the distribution of the remainder of the rents. On the inclosure of Broughton, in 1786, an allotment of 61 acres was set out for the minister and parish officers of Broughton, in lieu of the lands devised.

The proportion of rent payable to the Kettering poor (amounting in 1828 to £44, and in 1870 to £49 3s. 6d.), is distributed half-yearly, by the minister and churchwarden of Kettering, among poor widows, in sums of 4s. to each, and among other poor persons, above 60 years of age, in smaller sums.

Pettifer's Dole.

John Pettifer gave an annuity of 20s., secured upon a shop and chamber in Rotten Row, and the rent of Emmerton's Holm in Kettering, to put out apprentices.[1] As regards the annuity of 20s., it was by the consent of a vestry, held on the 14th February, 1787, satisfied by Mr. Nathaniel Collis, who was then in possession of the premises, paying to the Minister, Churchwardens, and Overseers of the Poor the sum of £20—the said sum of £20 being applied towards the expense of inclosing Hunt's Charity Estate at Broughton on the occasion of the Broughton Inclosure. Pettifer's Charity is therefore united with Hunt's. Emmerton's Holme is referred to elsewhere, under the heading of "The Church and Town Allotment." It is possible Pettifer purchased the land from Ladds. The case of Broughton *v.* Humphreys, printed elsewhere, refers to Emmerton's Holme.

Sawyer's Hospital.

An hospital, or almshouse, containing apartments for six poor people, having a small piece of garden in front, appears, by an

[1] Bridges, who gives as his authority the "brass table" in the church.

inscription on the building, to have been erected by Edmund Sawyer in 1688. No documents can be found relating to the foundation or erection of the hospital. The Duke of Buccleuch, who acts as patron, nominates the six almspeople, who are usually poor widows or aged persons of Kettering or the neighbourhood; and they receive, in equal shares, the yearly sum of £14[1] paid as a rent charge out of the Duke's estates near Kettering; the dividends of £215 18s. 6d. Consols (formerly £200 South Sea Annuities) standing in the names of trustees, and which was bequeathed for the benefit of the almspeople in equal shares by Mrs. Martha Baker, by will dated the 19th March, 1782; and the sum of £12 a year under the charity of Mrs. Ann Aldwinckle, subsequently mentioned. Quite recently Mr. James Gibbon bequeathed to the Rector and Churchwardens of Kettering £500 Queensland 4 per cent. debentures for the use of Sawyer's Hospital. The alms-houses, standing as they do at the top of the Station Road, are familiar enough to the inhabitants of the town, and it is a pity a little more light cannot be thrown on their origin. It may not be generally known that many years ago the building had a thatched roof, which was lower than the present one. In the Visitation of Northamptonshire, 1618, appears the following note, which relates to the granting of the Sawyers of the coat of arms which appears on the building:—"Edmund Sayer of Ketteringe. A Pat^{t} gven by Will Camden Clar. the 8 of May 1604 in ye 2 yere of the Raigne of K. James." Then follows a sketch of arms and crest, which appear to be:—Arms: Lozengy or and azure, on a pale gules three escallops of the first. Crest: A popinjay's head erazed vert, above a mural crown gules. (Harl. MS. 1467, fol. 6 b.)

Mrs. Aldwinckle's Charity.

Mrs. Ann Aldwinckle, by a codicil to her will, dated 19th November, 1792, directed that out of the stock then standing in her name in the Five per Cents, the sum of £30 a year should, after the death of the Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Bridges (in 1830, of Clifton, near Bristol), be made over to the minister and churchwardens of the parish of Kettering, to be distributed as follows—viz.: To the poor women in Sawyer's Hospital, 40s. apiece, to be paid half-yearly; to the workhouse, at Kettering, 50s. a year, for a person to attend twice a week to read and pray with the poor people there,

[1] The rent charge was originally £6, but was voluntarily increased to £14.

This Ho pital was
Built by Edmund Sawyer
Esq A mm 1688

but if such a custom could not be kept up, then that 50s. to go to the Sunday School; 30s. a year to be laid out in good books for poor people that come to church; £5 a year (after the death of an annuitant therein mentioned) to the poor people of Kettering, and the remainder of the £30 to old poor people at Christmas, to be distributed by Dr. Bridges, in linen, or otherwise, as he should think proper during his life, or by the minister and churchwardens if he were desirous to give up the trouble.

The sum of £600 Navy Five per Cents was appropriated to answer the above bequest; and the substituted stock, £630 New Three-and-a-half per Cents, in 1830, stood in the name of Dr. Bridges. The income from this charity in 1870-72, from £630 New Three per Cents amounted to £18 18s. 0d. only, and it was applied as follows—viz.: £12 to the almspeople, £1 10s. 0d. for good books for the poor attending church; £2 10s. 0d. for reading prayers to the poor in the workhouse; and the remaining £5 8s. 0d. for division amongst the poor.

Mr. Gibbon's Charity.

By his will, Mr. Jas. Gibbon, formerly of Brisbane, Queensland, but at the time of his decease, two or three years ago, of London, and whose family were prominently connected with Kettering in days gone by, gave the rector and churchwardens of Kettering £500 Queensland Four per Cent. Debentures for the inmates of Sawyer's Hospital, and the like sum to the Kettering Poor Widows' Fund.

Baker's Charity.

Mrs. Elizabeth Baker gave £150 South Sea Annuities for the purpose of providing funds for the distribution of threepenny loaves to such poor children as should be at church on Sunday mornings, and to none others. The time of distribution to commence about a month before Christmas, and continue until the dividends were expended. The Parish Clerk was to be the distributor, and was to have a loaf for his trouble.

In 1830, the stock stood in the names of the Rev. W. B. Fletcher, J. Keep, W. Roberts, and J. Adams, who were four of the trustees named in a declaration of trust respecting the charity, dated the 30th April, 1816; and the dividends, £4 10s. 0d. a year, were laid out in the purchase of threepenny loaves, which were given at the church on Sundays to poor women.

In 1870 the charity funds consisted of £161 18s. 10d. Consols, paying a dividend of £4 17s. 1d., which was spent in bread.

R. Sawyer's Charity.

There is an entry in an old parish book, under the date of 1682, stating that "Madam Rachel Sawyer by her will gave £100 in the year 1680, then in the hands of John Ayre who gave security on one half yard land, the surrender of which was lodged in the hands of Abraham Sparrow sen. John Maydwell sen. and Alexr. Ekins the interest to be paid to the Overseers for putting out poor children apprentices and for no other use." The £100, or a part of it, seems to have been used, as already mentioned, towards the purchase of the old workhouse, but it would appear that interest therefore was paid by the overseers, from the levies collected, down to the year 1767, when the payment was discontinued; and in spite of a resolution passed at a vestry meeting held in 1818 for renewing the payment of interest, and also of a recommendation to that effect by the Commissioners of 1830, no further interest has ever been paid.

Charity School for Girls.

A charity school for clothing and educating poor girls belonging to the Established Church was formed at Kettering early last century.[1] There was at first no regular deed of endowment, but a sum of £200 left by a person (unknown) seems to have formed the nucleus of the school funds. Years afterwards other persons gave small donations, two or three used to subscribe £1 1s. a year, and it is surmised that a Mr. Baker left a legacy in aid of the object. Trustees were appointed, but in 1820, Dr. Nathaniel Bridges (whose family had long been interested in the Charity) was the sole survivor. Mrs. Norman, one of the old schoolmistresses, only used to receive £9 12s. a year, and after her death Mr. Adams, who, at Dr. Bridges' request, managed the school, could not find a fit person to take her place at so small a stipend, and the accumulated dividends were laid out in the purchase of fresh stock. When at length Mrs. Chater was appointed schoolmistress she received at first £16 a year, and later £20 a year, for instructing some 20 poor girls in reading, sewing, and lace-making; the remainder of the dividends on the stock (which then amounted to £663 17s. 10d., and was

[1] The Parish Register records the burial on 5th Octr. 1738 of "Widow Richards, Dame of the Charity School."

invested in the Four per Cents) being expended in books and materials for the girls' work, and in wearing apparel for those who had been longest at school. The stock was standing in Dr. Bridges' name in 1830, but after his death it was intended to transfer it into the names of the minister and churchwardens. The stock was in 1870 in the £3 per Cents and produced an annual income of £19 18s. 4d. as against a former income of £26 10s. 6d.

Sunday School Funds.

Under the charity of the late Sir John Knightley, Bart., for establishing Sunday Schools in various parishes in Northamptonshire, the yearly sum of £5 15s. 1d. was in 1870 payable for the Sunday School at Kettering, as the dividends of £191 17s. Consols; such dividends being applied in aid of subscriptions for the support of the Sunday School.

A Lost Charity.

The sum of £50 was given by Mrs. Ann Aldwinckle, in 1789, for the benefit of the children attending the Sunday Schools at Kettering, and was deposited by her with the Rev. Joseph Knight, who signed a promissory note for the amount, dated 6th January, 1789, on the back of which note a memorandum was written, declaring Mrs. Aldwinckle's intention that the interest of the £50 should be applied in aid of the Kettering Church Sunday School, at the discretion of Mr. Knight and Mr. J. Adams, of Kettering. Mr. Knight, during his lifetime, paid £2 10s. a year as interest of the money, and after his death it appears that the sum of £50 was paid over to Mr. Adams, and that the interest thereof was paid by him until his death, which happened in or about 1812. Mr. Adams's executors were his son-in-law, the Rev. George Brigg, somewhile of Lutterworth, and his son, Mr. John Adams, of Kettering. The former considered that the £50 was a debt left to be paid by Mr. John Adams; while Mr. Adams questioned his father's liability to pay the 50s. a year, and paid no interest.

"There is little reason to doubt," say the Commissioners of 1830, "that the principal and interest are justly due from Mr. John Adams, but considering the length of time elapsed since interest was paid, and the want of any written evidence to prove his liability, it may be doubted whether any effectual means for recovering the money could be resorted to." Thus the charity was lost.

CHAPTER III.

The Independent or "Great Meeting" Charities.

Samuel Langley, of Kettering, who died in 1732, by his will dated 14th February, 1731, charged his copyhold property[1] in Kettering with the payment of the annual sum of 20s., on the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, to the preachers and teachers of the separate congregation of Protestant Dissenters in Kettering for ever.

Joseph Wright, in 1745, gave in trust £30, the interest of which was to be applied for the use of Mr. Boyce and his successors.

Joseph Nunneley by his will, dated in 1769, bequeathed £100 to his executors, to be placed out at interest, and directed that out of such interest 30s. a year should be paid to the minister of the Great Meeting-house in Kettering; 20s. a year should be laid out in meat, which was to be given to the honest and industrious poor in Kettering; and the remaining 30s. distributed by his executors, one half among the poor members, and the other half among the poor hearers of the Great Meeting. After the decease of his executors the sum of £100 was to be paid to the deacons in trust for the above uses.

Elizabeth Baker, by will, dated 16th May, 1781 (and proved in 1791), gave £100 to trustees, to be placed out at interest, and the interest to be applied in purchasing Bibles, Dr. Watts's Psalm and Hymn Books, and the Assembly's Catechism, to be distributed among the poor of the congregation of the Great Meeting-house.

John Wakelin, of Cranford, in 1792, gave £40 in trust to the deacons of the congregation of Dissenters in Kettering, the interest arising therefrom to be applied to the maintenance of the Minister, Preacher, or Lecturer for the time being, for ever, and

Ephraim Buswell, in 1801, bequeathed £50 upon like trusts.

John Meadows, by his will, in 1799, gave £50 in trust, the

---

[1] The land charged with this annuity was sold to Rev. J. K. Hall in 1819.

interest to be applied in aid of the annual subscriptions made by the Church and Congregation.

Mary Mee, who died in 1826, bequeathed to the Deacons of the Meeting House at Kettering the sum of £19 19s., the interest thereof to be annually applied in the purchase of cheap copies of Doddridge's Rise and Progress of Religion, to be distributed by the Deacons among such persons as they should think proper.

Thomas Dash, in 1841, gave by will £100 in aid of Nunneley's Charity, and the interest of £50 (now invested in Consols) in aid of the Sunday School.

Nathaniel Collis also gave four tenements, on the west side of the Meeting House Yard, to the Trustees of the Meeting and their successors.

CHAPTER IV.

Baptist Charities.

Job Davenport, a member of the Baptist Church in the time of Thos. Wallis, and afterwards united with the Church in Goosepasture Lane, under Mr. Hennell, by his last will, dated 10th June, 1734 (and in which he is described as of Hampstead, in the County of Hertford, Gentleman), gave and devised unto Robert Hennell, Lewis Clarke, Samuel Gill, Thos. Garrott, Wm. Wallis, Saml. Hall, and Samuel Shortland, their heirs and successors, Five small messuages situate in Kettering, and an estate situate at Lutterworth, consisting of a house and four or five acres of land adjoining it, in trust to apply the rents and profits arising from the same towards the support and maintenance of the Minister Pastor or Teacher of the Church and Congregation meeting in Goosepasture Lane. The five cottages were sold about 1768, under the circumstances already mentioned, but the Lutterworth property still remains in the hands of the Trustees of Baptist Chapel, and brings in a rental of about £50 per annum.

Thomas Gotch, by his will, dated 1805, gave "To the minister and deacons for the time being of the Baptist Congregation at Kettering the sum of £100 in trust to be placed out by them at interest, and the interest applied annually at their discretion for ever among the Poor of the said Congregation." This Charity now brings in £5 per annum.

Mrs. Seward left the poor of the congregation an annuity in 1754. She was a member of a Baptist church at Bengnorth, near Evesham, Worcestershire. Dr. Gill was one of her trustees; and it seems likely to have been out of respect to him that Kettering was remembered. Amongst many legacies of a public kind she left the interest of £400 South Sea Annuities between the poor of three Baptist congregations, of which Kettering was one. The amount received here from Rev. Mr. Reynolds, one of the trustees, was £3 annually in Mr. Fuller's time, and was distributed amongst the necessitous poor in the cold season of winter. The amount now received is £3 5s., and is paid by Rev. Dr. Todd, Forest Hill.

Mrs. Marlow, a member of the Baptist Church at Leominster, died about 1780, and left the annual interest of £200 in the Stocks to the Church, the interest on £150 thereof being designed for the minister and the interest on the remainder for the poor. Her affairs, however, got into Chancery, and in 1787 it was decreed that the amount of interest payable here was £1 7s. 9d. annually, £1 1s. of which is payable to the minister and 6s. 9d. to the poor. This sum is still received and applied in the said manner.

John Wymond, a member of Mr. Wilson's Church, who died about 1730, would appear to have left something for the benefit of the Church, but it was lost in manner already mentioned.

Mrs. Beeby Wallis, who died on 17th October, 1812, by her will left to certain Trustees the sum of £400 upon trust that they should put it out at interest and out of the income thereof Pay the minister of the Kettering Baptist Congregation for the time being the yearly sum of £2 10s. "for preaching the gospel occasionally in the neighbouring villages." Lay out in Bibles and Hymn-books to be distributed among the poor of the said congregation in such manner as the minister and deacons for the time being thought fit the like further yearly sum of £2 10s. Distribute among the poor of the said congregation in such manner as the said ministers and deacons shall think fit the yearly sum of £5. Lay out in the repairing of the Meeting House and Minister's Dwelling-house and in the insuring of the same from fire the yearly sum of £4 10s. And upon further trust to pay to the said minister for the time being of the said congregation the residue of the interest or dividends of the said sum of £400 which shall remain after deducting the several yearly sums of £2 10s., £2 10s., and £5 and £4 10s. aforesaid as the last half year's interest or dividends should be received. The present income from this Charity is £11 19s., the principal money being invested in $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. Consols.

PART VI.

NOTABILIA.

CHAPTER I.

Kettering Stone.

Robert Hooke in his "Micrographia," published in 1665, gives a somewhat particular and elaborate account of "Kettering Stone." "This Stone," he says, "which is brought from Kettering, in Northamptonshire and digg'd out of a Quarry, as I am inform'd, has a grain altogether admirable, nor have I ever seen or heard of any other stone that has the like. It is made up of an innumerable company of small bodies, not all of the same size or shape, but for the most part, not much differing from a Globular form, nor exceed they one another in Diameter above three or four times; they appear to the eye like the Cobb or Ovary of a Herring, or some smaller fishes, and not so uniform." Mr. Hooke then goes on to further describe the "Globular forms," and to state his theories as to the cause of the small bodies being globular, all which theories and descriptions would no doubt be interesting to inhabitants of Kettering, had it not been pointed out by Morton that the stone which Hooke describes was not Kettering stone at all. For, says Morton, "Some of my Readers may expect an Account of that Stone call'd Kettering-stone by Dr. Hook in his Micrography, and from him by other Authors; a Freestone compos'd as is there observ'd of Ova; Kettering being a noted Town in this County. But the Stone that Dr. Hook describ'd was from Ketton Quarry in Rutland; as appears by a Sample of it preserv'd in the Oxford Museum. Kettering in Northamptonshire affords not any of that kind of Stone." [1]

[1] Morton's "Natural History of Northamptonshire."

CHAPTER II.

The Local Press.

The first printed publication which contained local information, and purported to be a Kettering Journal, was perhaps a monthly periodical entitled "The Citizen," and edited by Rev. Wm. Robinson. In a copy bearing date July 1, 1846, and numbered "New Series, No. 1," the Editor thus explains the origin of the Journal:—"About the end of the year 1843, a few persons met at Kettering, and projected the publication of a monthly penny periodical, which should advocate decidedly Liberal sentiments . . . . and on the 15th of February, 1844, the first number of the Citizen appeared. . . . . In January, 1845, the Citizen was considerably enlarged, and its circulation increased in different parts of England. At the commencement of the present year another enlargement took place, the price being raised to twopence. Owing to these alterations, the contents of the Journal of necessity assumed a somewhat altered cast. The publishers aimed at a national circulation; and the Citizen consequently lost that thoroughly local character which at first distinguished it. Our wish is to return to the original design. We have no expectation of being able to produce a periodical for England: but do expect to produce one which shall be acceptable to the inhabitants of Northamptonshire, and its immediate vicinity." The original price of one penny was reverted to, and the journal, consisting of eight quarto pages, was issued until December, 1847, if not longer, and was during that period printed and published by Thomas Waddington, High Street, Kettering.

In 1855, Messrs. Waddington and Son published the first real weekly Kettering Newspaper. Its title was "The Kettering Free Press, Northamptonshire Advertiser, and Charles Knight's Town and Country Newspaper," and its price was 2d. No. 5 bears date July 28, 1855, and No. 1 was therefore presumably published on 30th June, 1855. The paper consisted of sixteen super royal quarto pages, of which the first two and the last two appear

to have been printed locally (so far as No. 5 is concerned at any rate). The paper continued to flourish for many years, but eventually its place of publication was removed to Leicester. It is now known as the "Midland Free Press."

About 1878, "The Kettering and Wellingborough News," a localised edition of a weekly Wellingborough paper, was published here and for many years was the only Kettering paper. Later on the paper was known as "The Kettering News," and that was its title when in 1888 it became the property of the Northamptonshire Printing and Publishing Company, Limited, who put down plant at Kettering, and on 27th April, 1888, published the paper under the new title of "The Kettering Leader."

In the meantime, in 1882, a Conservative weekly organ, entitled the "Kettering Guardian," was started by the late Mr. J. W. Steff, and is now carried on by his widow.

"The Kettering Observer," too, was on 15th September, 1882, printed and published at Kettering by Mr. J. W. Linnett. It was started as an Independent Journal, but for some time it advocated Liberal principles, although, later on (when in June, 1890, its publication was discontinued, and it was amalgamated with the "Kettering Leader," which then changed its title to the present one of the "Kettering Leader and Observer") its tone was by no means so advanced. On 14th October, 1887, Mr. Linnett issued the paper at a halfpenny, and reduced its size from eight to four pages, but the venture was not a success, and the following week it was again issued at its usual price and in its usual size.

CHAPTER III.

Tokens and Medals.

Tradesmen's Tokens.[1]

O. IOHN . FOX. 1664 = The Grocers' Arms $\frac{1}{4}^{d}$

R. IN . KEATRING = I. F

Engraved in Bridges' Northamptonshire, No. 12.

O. IOHN . LADS . OF . KET = 1664. $\frac{1}{4}^{a}$

R. TERING . NORTHAMSH = I. A. L.

Engraved in Bridges' Northamptonshire, No. 13, read "Ladds." On a specimen in Mr. Golding's Cabinet the name of the issuer is spelt with two D's, and is dated 1657.

O. THOMAS . WEBB . MERCER = The Mercers' Arms. $\frac{1}{4}^{d}$

R. OF . KETTERING = T. W

Engraved in Bridges' Northamptonshire, No. 14.

Baptist Jubilee Medals.[2]

O. Bust to right, "William Carey."

R. In the centre, "Baptist Mission formed Oct^{r} 2nd 1792. Commenced in E. Indies 1793. W. Indies 1813. W. Africa 1840. Stations 157. Missionaries 71. Teachers & Native Preachers 127. Members upwards of 30,000. Scholars about 18,000. Scriptures Translated into 40 Languages & Dialects. Copies issued in the Year 1841 85,000. Slavery Abolished Augt^{t} 1st. 1838." Round the margin, "Expect Great Things from God. Attempt Great Things for God." Davis Birm.

O. An open Bible on a pedestal, inscribed, "Trans into 40 Lang^{s};" a Missionary preaching, near him an East Indian on his knees, and a slave rejoicing in his newly found liberty; two angels above, one holding an open Bible, and the other with trumpet

---

[1] Vide N. N. and Q vol. ii, p 206.

[2] N. N. and Q vol. iii, p 18.

extended. With inscription underneath, "Baptist Mission Jubilee 1842." Round the design, "Then shalt Thou cause the trumpet of the Jubilee to sound & ye shall hallow the fiftieth year."

R. Identical with the medal last described.

O. Portraits of "W. Carey," "A. Fuller," "S. Pearce," "Dr. Ryland." An open Bible in the centre, with an inscription encircling the portraits, "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name give glory."

R. The house at Kettering, where the Society was formed in 1792, with the inscription "Jubilee of Baptist Mission. Formed at Kettering Oct^{r} 2nd. 1792."

O. Portraits of "Carey and Thomas the First Missionaries."

R. "Fifty years ago, the Baptist Mission was commenced, & Carey & Thomas the First Missionaries sent to India. The Society now numbers about 200 Missionaries & Teachers, 157 Stations, more than 30,000 Members, & 18,000 Scholars. The Bible has been translated into 40 Languages & Dialects. Other men laboured & ye are entered into their Labours."

Toller Centenary Celebration Medal.

O. Heads in profile, to left, of Thomas Northcote Toller and Thomas Toller, the latter superimposed upon the former. Legend, "Centenary Celebration, October 1st, 1875."

R. "This Medal commemorates the 100 years' pastorate in connection with the Independent Chapel Kettering commenced by Rev. T. N. Toller October 1st 1775 Completed by Rev. T. Toller October 1st 1875."

Jubilee Medals.

Medals commemorating the Queen's Jubilee were distributed amongst the children in June, 1887, but they were not specially struck for Kettering.

CHAPTER IV.

Curious Cases illustrative of the Old Manorial Customs and Rights.

Right of Leasing.

Star Chamber Proceedings.[1]

William Willymott v. John Lane, Richard Frith, Richard Kellet, Richard Rise, and Edward Fysshe.

This case refers to an attachment of the plaintiff by order of the Court Leet for that he was a "suspect person," and will be understood from the Interrogatories given below, and from the abstract of the depositions given in reply.

Int'gatoryes ex pte Witti Willymott.

I. I[n] primis whether Thomas ffysshe was seised of a Cotage in Keterynge now in varians, ye or noe.

II. Itm Whether ye know of or are pryvy of any leise made by the said Thomas unto the seid Willymott, ye or noe.

III. It. how many werr at the brekyng up of the dore of the seid coplainant's howse and what ar ther namez & by whose cõanndment the did it.

IV. It. whiche of them brake it open & wherw[t] it was broken open.

V. Itm whiche of them ent'red furst into the howse.

VI. It. how many laders werr fatched to get in at the chamber apon the seid Willymott wyndowez & who brought the ladders thither.

---

[1] Bundle 21, No. 86.—"This case is specially interesting as it tends to show that in the reign of Henry VIII., at any rate, the action of the Court of the Star Chamber was by no means oppressive, but rather provided security for the humbler members of the community against oppression by their richer or more powerful neighbours."—49th Report of Deputy Keeper of the Records. The orders of the Court are unfortunately lost, so the result of the case cannot be stated.

VII. It. whether ye know of any wyndow that was brawkyng ther to get into the Chamber & who brake, & by whose comandment.

VIII. It. whether any lader was put in at the seid Wyndow.

IX. It. yf ye be pryvy or know of any that werr ther had harneez apon them, or apon any of them & what harnes it was.

X. It yf ye be pryvy or know that the chamber dore was broken open, ye or no and who broket open.

XI. It whether ye know of any spyt that was putt in at the seid Chamber dore & who put it in.

XII. It whether the seid compleñt was hurt w^{t} the seid spyt ye or noe & wher & in what part of his body he was hurt & who hurt him.

XIII. It who pullyd owt the said compleñt of the seid chamber in his seid howse.

XIV. It how many werr at the polyng out of hym & whyther the caryed hym.

XV. It who pullyed the wyff of the seid compleñnts owt of the seid howse.

XVI. It how long the kept the seid compleñt in the stokks, If what wepons the seid ptyes had when the broke open his chamber dore.

XVII. It whether this compleñnt did sue a subpena apon the said John Lane.

XVIII. It whether the said John Lane did sey thez words folowyng at the s̃uyng of the said subpena that he set noe more by the said wryt then by a straw under his fete ye or noe.

XIX. It whether the said Lane at the s̃uyng of the seid subpena did take the seid def by the Arme & lad hym a gret wey & charged the cunstable w^{t} hym & to set hym in the stokks.

XX. It who toke from the said compleñt his kees of his cofeers.

XXI. It whether any of his cofers werr openyd ye or noe & who openyd them.

Abstracts of Depositions in Reply.

John Lane of "Ketring bayliffe" says:—"Thomas fyshe was seised of the Cottage but he knows of no lease. He and Kellett went to plaintiff's house by command of Mr. Wood Steward of S^{r} William Parr knt. Lord Parr to attach plaintiff and his wife and put them in the stocks, but plaintiff hid himself in a chamber, and the constable broke open the door with a staff and so entered and carried him to prison. A great crowd was present but they only looked

on. The constable brought a ladder and put it in at the chamber window. Plaintiff took a two handed sword to them. No one wore harness and no spit was thrust in at the door. The Constable pulled plaintiff's wife out and bade her depart. They then put plaintiff in the stocks for two days. He and the Constable ordered the plaintiff's wife to open the chests in plaintiff's house to see what prohibited books were there, and there they found a book of Conjurations and a book of Coverdale's works which they delivered to Lord Parr.

John Kellet of Ketring "Constable" yeoman says:—In going to plaintiff's house to attach him he had a staff, John Lane had a sword, but Richard ffrith he thinks had no weapon. At his orders, Richard ffrith pulled the plaintiff out of his chamber. Plaintiff was in the stocks one day and two nights.

Richard ffrith of Ketring gives a similar version of the affair but says he had a bill in his hands. He says no spit was thrust in at the window.

Edward ffishe of Harborowe says:—A Lease was made to the plaintiff of the premises by Thomas ffyshe, but it is void, because it was not made according to the custom of the manor. He was not present at the affair, but had come to Kettering the same day to distrain for the rent of the plaintiff's house "which this deponent had taken by copie of Courte Role before in the Lords Courte." But "John Lane the bayly would not suffer him to distrain."

Richard Rice of Ketring husbandman also gave evidence.

The foregoing Interrogatories and Depositions appear to have been made as a result of earlier proceedings, for another bundle[1] of the Star Chamber Proceedings contains a version of plaintiff's case, as well as the cause of his being attached, and a graphic description of his seizure.

Therein it is recorded that "Willymott says that Thomas ffysshe was seised in fee of the cottage in Kettering and did let the same to him for the term of 20 years." Plaintiff occupied the said Cottage peaceably for 9 years until Lane and others came and "w^{t} force & armez riottously expulsed & putt owt your seid subiect from the same." Plaintiff and his wife were presented at the Lete for that by the oath of 12 men they were "suspect psonz & comen disquyeters of ther neiburs or werr suspect for imbeselyng of hennez ducks capons, woods out of menz yards or clothez from mennez

[1] Bundle 17, No. 110.

hedgez." Plaintiff was then committed to jail until he found sureties for his good behaviour.

The Defendants' answer mentions the King's grant of the Manor to Wm. Parr knt. Lord Parr of Horton and Lord Chamberlain to the Queen's highness. Also that the Leet was to be holden twice a year, viz., within a month next after Easter and within a month next after Michaelmas. After disobeying the steward's orders the plaintiff was to be arrested, and on their going to attach him, he went into his house and "dȳd cast gret stones & other thyngs of defence owt at hys wyndow at the seyd constable & his seyd Company to their grett danger" . . . "seying and swerynge wyth dȳvz grett othes and threts havyng a longe twoo handyd sworde in hys hande that he wold sley soṁ of them or that he were arrestid or wold obey any arrest." Whereupon Kellet and the others entered his house and brought him to Northampton Castle by the orders of the Justice of the Peace and the Steward of the Leet, where he remained until he found sureties. Fish, the owner of the cottage, had often given plaintiff, who was only tenant at will, notice to quit. Defendants deny hurting plaintiff otherwise than in self-defence. They also deny taking away from his coffers any writings, books, "or other his goods or Cattalls but only a boke of Coverdales makyng and a paper drawen with fygures & circulls moche lyke to coniuracions."

The result of the case is not stated.

Seizure of Lands on Nonpayment of Quit Rent.

Exchequer Depositions by Commission.

Michas. 34 and 35 Elizabeth No. 37.

John Broughton plaintiff, Richard Humphrey son of William Humphrey defendant.

This case relates to the forfeiture of certain Copyhold Lands in consequence of the nonpayment by the tenant of the customary quit rent.

Abstract of Interrogatories.

I. Did you know William Humphrey, deceased?

II. Do you know Barton's Holme and Emmerton's Holme; and how long have you known them?

III. Are not the same parcells of meadow copyhold of the Manor of Kettering? And did not the said William Humphrey hold the same as copyhold of the said manor?

IV. What is the yearly rent to the Queen from the said manor; and when paid?

V. Did William Humphrey pay his rent regularly, or how often was he in arrear?

VI. Did not William Humphrey refuse to pay the said rent to the Queen's bailiff of the said manor?

VII. What did he say when he refused to pay and to whom?

VIII. "Itm̃. Whether is not the denyinge to paye the rente for the Copiholde Land wthin the said Manno^{r} a forfeyture of the same Copiholde for w^{ch} the rent is so denyed, by the Custome of the said Manno^{r}."

IX. Whether it was not presented and found that William Humphrey had refused to pay his rents and thereby had forfeited the same to her Majesty's hands, "And when at what Courte was it so founde and presented"?

X. Were not the said Lands thereupon seized into her Majesty's hands as forfeited? And were not the same afterwards granted to the complainant, his heirs and assigns, accordinge to the custom of the said Manor?

XI. Whether is not the Complainant admitted tenant of the said two parcells of meadow according to the custom of the said manor. "And whether hath he not paid his fyne & done his fealtye for the same according to the custom of the said Manno^{r}"?

XII. What do you know concerning the said "premisses & whether was not the tenannte admitted tennante unto the said two parcells of medow by the stewarde by vertew of speciall letters unto him directed from the right honorable William Lorde Burlaye Lorde Tresurer of Englande"?

Abstracts of Depositions in Reply.

Taken at Kettering Friday October 8, 34 Eliz. before Arthur Brooke Esq. and Henry Pratt gent.

Bassil Lane of Isham Co. Northt. gent. aged 40 or thereabouts says:

I. He had known William Humfreys about 20 years.

II. Has known both meadows about 20 years.

III. Knows the lands to be copyhold of the manor of Ketteringe because his father was Queen's bailiff there and had often sent him to collect Humfreys' rent.

IV. The yearly rent is xijs. vjd. Has received it in his father's time and many times since. Thinks the two terms are "th' annun-

ciacon of o^{r} Ladye s^{t} Marye the virgine and S^{t} Michaell the Archangell or thereabouts."

V. The rent due on the feast of the Annunciation 31 Eliz. was not paid. Deponent demanded it from William Humphreys at his dwelling house in Burton and was denied. Thereupon deponent seized the said meadows to her majesty's use. "And so was forced therebye at the next receipt howlden for her Ma^{ti} at the town of Northton to paye the said half yeares rent of his owne money due to have been paide by the saide Will Humphrye for the savinge harmeles of him this deponent and his Suerties who stand bownd to her Ma^{ti} in two thousand pounds or therabouts to his remambrance for the paim^{t} of the yearlie Rents and revenues from time to time due to her Ma^{tie} out of the said manor of Ketteringe."

X. The said two medows were forfeited to the Queen, and granted to the complainant, his heirs and assigns.

XI. The complainant is admitted tenant to the said Lands and has paid his fine and done his fealty therefor according to the custom of the said manor.

Edmund Sawyer of Ketteringe, Yeoman, aged 26, says:—

III. Thinks the lands are copyhold of the manor of Kettering, and that William Humphreys held them of the Queen as such.

V. Was on the Jury of the Leet at Ketteringe on Lady Day 31 Eliz. and did find upon information given by Basill Lane and William Knighte his man that Humphreys had not paid his rent.

X. Emerton's Holme was seized in the name of both the parcells by Bassyll Lane gent. her M^{ats} bailiff of the said manor. The lands were afterwards granted to complainant his heirs and assigns according to the custom of the said manor.

XI. Complainant is admitted tenant. But does not know whether he has paid his rent or done his fealty.

XII. Knows complainant is admitted tenant by special letters to the steward from Wm. Lorde Burghleye. The letters were read openly in Court and afterwards delivered to defendant to read.

Thomas Hurlestone of Kettering, Yeoman, aged about 70, says:—

IX. It was found by this deponent and the rest of the "dezens inqueste" (to inquire of matters touching the Court Baron) that William Humphreys did deny to pay his half years rent whereby the lands were forfeited to her Majesty.

William Knighte of Isham co. Northt., gent. aged 30, says:—

II. Went with Bassyll Lane (then his master), Henry Richards,

John Meadowes, and John ffyssher to demand the rent of Humphreys. Was present with the above-named persons when Mr. Lane seized the lands. Mr. Lane "cutt up a peece of the saide grounde with his knyfe and therupon & in token thereof did seize the saide two parcells of meadowe to her Ma^{ts} use."

The result of the action is not given.

Admissions out of Court.

Exchequer Depositions by Commission.
Mich. 1 James I. No. 3.

John Talbot, Elizabeth Talbot and others Plaintiffs and Thomas Judkin defendant.

This case relates to a dispute as to the ownership of the "Swanne Inn,"[1] Kettering, but the only two points of interest to the general reader are the queries and replies given below as to admissions out of Court by the Steward and the names of the Stewards of those days—

Extracts from Interrogatories.

IX. Who have been Steward and Surveyors of the Manor of Kettering and who have usually kept the Courts of the said Manor at any time within these 60 years last past? Whether was not Gyles Wekeley sometime Steward?

X. Whether have not the Stewards of the said Manor sometime taken surrenders of Copyholders out of ye Court?

Extracts from Depositions.

Taken at Kettering 12 Octr 1603 before
Thomas Tresham Esq and Thomas Moulshe Esq.

Elizabeth Saweir of Kettering widow and tenant to the defendant, aged about 78 and who has dwelt in the Swan about 56 years says:—

IX. Hath known Edward Watson of Rockingham co. Northt. Esq. deceased and Sir Edward Watson now knight his son to have been stewards by the space of about 50 years, and have heard that Gyles Wickley was also Steward of the said Manor.[2]

X. "That the Stewards for the tyme beinge have sometymes taken surrenders of Coppie howlders out of the Court, and saith she

[1] See Eayre's plan, where Swan Yard is marked.

[2] Sir Lewis Watson succeeded his father as Steward. "Rockingham Castle and the Watsons," p. 220.

hath not knowne nor hard that any surrend[r] made out of the Court to the knowne Steward of the manor of Ketteringe not being deceners or any of them hath bene for that cause overthrowne and made void in any action suite or triall in the Court of Ketteringe or ells where in any of the Courts of the kinge or of his predecessors at Westminster and saith such coppieholds soe surrendered into the Lords hands by the Stewards have been enioyed and allowed accordingly."

Henry Aburne of Kettering, husbandman, aged about 80 says :—

IX. Gyles Wickley was deputy Steward of the Court Baron of the manor of Kettering. He never knew any Stewards of the manor of Kettering but Edward Watson Esq. deceased and Sir Edward Watson knt. now liveing and no other surveyor but Sir Robert Winffeild knt. now living.

Further depositions were taken at Kettering 2nd January 1 James I., but no fresh information of any importance was elicited.

The result of the action is not given.

Commonable Rights on the Links.

Exchequer Depositions by Commission.
Easter. 2 Jas. I. No. 5.

John Meadows and Richard Drawater plaintiffs and Edmond Sawyer, def.

About the beginning of the seventeenth century disputes arose as to the commonable rights on the Links, and also as to the extensive burrowing and feeding of the conies at the Warren. The first proceedings were taken in the Court of Exchequer, and the following are notes from the Depositions taken at Kettering on 28th February, 1 James I.,[1] before Sir Anthony Mildmay knt. and Stephen Harvy Esq.

Robert Dallison of Cransley gent. aged fifty-four says :—

He has known the Links about forty-six years and they are parcell of the manor of Kettering.

" Hath knowne it generally accompted an Acte Justifiable & noe offence in any Copiholder or Inhabitant of the s[d] Towne or manno[r] of Ketteringe to kill cunneys in any place w[th]in the said

[1] There were also depositions taken at Kettering, 17th January, 1 Jas. I., but the documents are in too bad a condition to be properly deciphered. There is a reference in them to the warrener's house called " The Lyncks," and the " lodge yard," referred to elsewhere was probably the yard of this house.

manno^{r} or feilds of Ketteringe; saving in the severall demesne Closes & the lodge yard used with the sayd scite ffrom of w^{ch} grounds he hath knowne the sayde Inhabitants to have bene beaten by the keepers thereof."

Basyll Lane of Isham co. Northt. gent. aged sixty-three says:—

John Lane his father "was fermor of the s^{d} Scyte of the Mannor & demesne." He tried to make two new burrows, but was interrupted by the Inhabitants. Mr. Robert Bose successor to the said John Lane also tried to make a burrow but was also interrupted by the inhabitants. The names of those who interrupted were Henry Sawyer, father of the defendant, Richard Meadowes, John Drawater, Thomas Sparrow, Thos. Hurlston, Henry Richards, Henry Castledine, Avery Eare & William Cave, all of whom were copyholders of Kettering but most of them are now dead.

Thomas Dexter of Old Yeoman, aged seventy-five, says:

He has known the Links about fifty years. "He knoweth yt the fermors tennants & occupiors of the mannor and of the demesne lands used therewith had not nor used to have soe longe as he this deponent can remember any Common for any manner of Cattell commonable in any the wast grounds open feilds or Commonable places of the s^{d} towne or mannor of Ketteringe."

Thomas Beale of Burton miller aged eighty, says:—

He has known the manor of Kettering about sixty years, and knows the Links to belong to the "Commoners of the Towne of Ketteringe and not to the fermor of the Scyt of the s^{d} mannor savinge the lodge yard."

On Thursday, October 11th, 1604, the case (John Meadows, Richard Drawater, and Robert Pynder for themselves and the King's Copyhold Tenants in Kettering against Edmund Sawyer Esq.) came before the Court of Exchequer, and after hearing Counsel and examining witnesses a Commission under the Seal of the Court was ordered to be awarded to the King's Auditor, Receiver, and Surveyor of the County of Northampton and to Sir Edward Montagu, Sir Robert Wyngefield, Sir Euseby Isham, Augustine Nicols, Sergeant-at-Law, and Sir Henry Montagu for arbitrating the same. In accordance with this order the said persons met at Kettering on 12th April, 1605, viewed the places in question, and examined witnesses for two or three days. With the consent of the parties interested they found First that the coneys shall

burrow nowhere but in the Bounds of the Hedges and Ditches of the Demesne Closes or within the yard of the Lodge of the Warren or Ditch thereof and one Burrow east thereof Second that the Conies shall feed only upon that part of the Links between the Hall Yard Close to the South and the Sheep Wash on the North; from the Sheep-wash eastward along a Gutter to Broom-hills and westward from the Sheep-wash to Thorp Meer; and that it shall be lawful for anyone to kill them out of these Bounds. And also that all the Grounds called the Links, as well that part thereof which is before limited for the feeding of the Conies of the said Edmund Sawyer, as all the residue of the said ground which is called by the name or names or which lieth adjoining to the said Links wherein the ancient Cottagers of the said Town of Kettering have used to have common or each of them for one Milch Cow and a Breeder shall be thus used from henceforth for ever: That is to say the same shall be laid severally every year upon the Feast Day of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary until the First Day of May; and upon the first day of May every ancient Cottager which for the time being shall be dwelling upon such Cottage shall and may then put upon the said Grounds One Milch Cow and One Breeder or Follower the Cow to be accounted such as hath had a Calf and the Breeder or Follower to be accounted a Heifer not above Three years old and one which hath never had a calf; the same Cow and Breeder to be the proper Beasts of the Cottager as heretofore they have used without letting his Common and there to take and use their said Common until the First day of August yearly commonly called Lammas Day And after Lammas to common with the Husbandmen And that every year from the Feast Day of the Annunciation of the blessed Virgin Mary until the first day of August, no Person inhabitant of Kettering, or Tenant to his Majesty there other than the said ancient Cottagers shall have or may have take or use any Common Pasture or Feeding there with any Cattle whatsoever Other than for such Parts of and at such Times as hereafter is expressed That is to say Any Inhabitant which in the said Town of Kettering shall and may at the Time of the Year when Sheep shall be to be washed Bring their Sheep to the said Ground called the Links to the place where they have used to wash their Sheep and keep them therein for and during such time as shall be convenient for their washing and drying until they be ready to be shorn And that at all times for ever from henceforth for Two Years together from the Feast of the Annunciation until such time

as the Husbandmen of Kettering aforesaid shall put their Beasts to pasture the said Husbandmen of Kettering aforesaid are to have that part of the Links aforesaid which is commonly called or known by the Name of the Park Corner for the watering and layer of their Beasts And every Third year when a place in the Fields of Kettering aforesaid called Cransley-Brooks is Bullock's Pasture then the said Husbandmen of Kettering aforesaid are not to have take or use any layer or watering for their Beasts upon the said Place called Park Corner Between the said Feast of the Annunciation and the time when their Beasts are put to Pasture But after their Beasts are put to pasture in that third year they are to have watering for their beasts at the brook there from the time their Beasts shall go to Pasture until the First day of August yearly And that at such time as Sheep shall be washed and the water by this or any ways or means be foul and unwholesome for Cattle to drink or through Drought grow Scanty then the said Husbandmen shall and may water their beasts and cattle in such Part of the Water as shall be above the Place where they shall wash their Sheep or where the same shall grow foul or grow scanty as aforesaid And also that all such Cottagers Inhabitants of Kettering aforesaid who have no right of common pasture or feeding upon the said parcel of ground called the Links for such Cow or Breeder as is aforesaid And such Cottagers who having such right of common have not any such Cow or Breeder to take and use the said Common upon the said Ground called the Links shall have and take all the Brakes Furze Ling and Heath which shall be yearly coming and growing and increasing in and upon the said Ground called the Links And all other Husbandmen and Cottagers of Kettering aforesaid to be barred and excluded from having or taking any part thereof.

"With our said Agreement Mediation and Composition thus had made and agreed upon as is aforesaid As well his Majesty's Copyhold Tenants Cottagers and Inhabitants of and in Kettering aforesaid As the said Edmund Sawyer are contented and do desire us the said Sir Edward Montague, Sir Robert Wyngefield, Sir Euseby Isham and Augustine Nichols to certify into His Majesty's Honourable Court of Exchequer with their humble Suit that the same may be there decreed if it shall so seem good to this honourable Court."

The Award was confirmed by the Court on 13th May, 1605, and on 18th June, 1605, it was ordered "that the said Arbitrement shall be holden for ever hereafter firm and sure in every Respect."

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY
LIBRARY

Suit and Service to the Mills.

Exchequer: Depositions by Commission.
Easter 1653. No. 10.

Edmund Sawyer plaintiff and Nathaniel Humfrey, Augustine Walton and John Barnes defendants.

This and the following case relate to the customs of suit and service to the ancient mills of the Manor of Kettering, and arose from the fact of the inhabitants objecting to have all their corn, &c., ground at such mills.

Extracts from Depositions.

Jane Cockaine of Barton Seagrave widdowe aged 70 says :—

"Shee knowes that the Resiants & tenants of Ketteringe have usually sent theire graine & Corne w^{ch} they spent in theire howses in Kettering from tyme to time at theire wills & pleasures to Mills standing and being wthout the said Mannor of Kettering there to be ground for there uses for the space of 40 yeares and upwards And that shee hath knowne one Ashby a baker & Jonas Chapman William Abell Henry Richards & others the Inhabitants of Kettering to send theire graine and Corne to the adiacent Mills in Burton & Barton And that shee knewe Edward Stapley, one Saũnt and one Gregory and one Richard Beale Millers in Barton to have usually grounded Corne for the Inhabitants of Kettering at Barton Mills."

"Shee knowes Barton Mills & hath knowne them for the space of forty years and upwards which are distant from Kettering bout a mile during which time the Millers and Loaders of Barton have usually in open Markett and otherwise fetched Corne and Mault from the inhabitants & Resiants of Ketteringe aforesaid and caryed the same to Barton Mills there to bee grounde & to bee returned to the Inhabitants of Kettering." "She says dureing forty yeares as aforesaid she hath knowne the millers of Burton Latimer to Loade Corne from Ketteringe usually and to return it thither againe after itt was grounde att theire mills. But shee knowes not that the owners of Ketteringe Mills did any waies disturbe or denie them soe doeinge."

William Richardson of Kettering Miller aged 48 says :—

—"hee believes that the Mills of Ketteringe are not able to grinde all the corne graine and malt used and spent in the Mannor of Ketteringe."

John Wood of Kettering "Joyner" aged 60 says :—The late King James was Lord of the Manor and for the space of 40 years

last past he knows that all the residents and inhabitants within the said manor and parish of Kettering have been used and bound by the custom of the said Manor "to carry grynd and fetch away all the Corne grayne and malt whatsoever that they or any of them have spent or otherwise used in their dwellinge houses or otherwise in the Towne and Parishe of Ketteringe aforesayd in and from the Mills of Ketteringe aforesaid and not else where." But if it were not ground and ready to carry away within twenty-four hours next after the bringing of the said corn and grain to be ground, "then it hath been lawfull for the sayd resients Tennants & inhabitants within the sayd Mannor and parishe of Ketteringe aforesayd to take away the said Corne and grayne and to carry it to any other Mills whatsoever to grind the same, but the next grist of corne they are to bringe to one of the sayd Mills in Ketteringe to be ground as aforesayd."

The result of the action is not given.

There were two earlier cases. One was that referred in the notes on Bakehouse Hill (re Sawyer versus Edye and Smith), while the other was an action brought by John Sawyer in Hilary Term, 9 Chas I., against Wm. Abell. In the latter case Abell, who was a baker, is said to have "combined with Euseby Meadows to take away the profits of the mills which were a great expense to support and did not only withdraw their custom but out of evil will and causeless displeasure procured others to do the same and had of late built divers malt mills of his own in Kettering where he did not only grind all his own Mault, but likewise that of others and likewise their other corn." The defendant said, "That the Town of Kettering is a populous parish and the complainants Mills not sufficient to grind all their corn." That "he doth spend weekly four Quarter of Wheat . . . when he married he found in the house one pair of Mault Quernes which the owner used to grind their own Mault and he continued the same." He lived in a dwelling "on the Parsonage Manor and uttereth great quantities of Wheat and Grist Corn in Bread in the Country." Sawyer won his action, Abell being ordered to grind all his corn at the legally appointed Mills and to demolish his Quernes. But if Abell should carry or send corn to Sawyer's Mill to be ground, and it should not be ground for him within four and twenty hours, then he might fetch his corn away and grind it elsewhere.[1]

[1] Mr. Chas. Wise kindly furnished the notes as to this case.

Exchequer Depositions by Commission.

Mich. 15 Chas. II. No. 16.

Edmund Sawyer and Sarah Sawyer plaintiffs.
Henry Linnell defendant.

Abstracts of Depositions taken at Kettering, 4th September, 15 Charles II., before John Maunsell, Esq., Wm. Coe, Esq., Arthur Gooday, gent., & Thomas Barton, gent.

Nicholas Holden (?) of Kettering miller aged 56, says:—He knows the town and Manor of Kettering and the ancient mills there, viz. the watermill, the windmill, and the horsemill or maltmill. The said mills are now in the Complainant's occupation. The watermill has three pairs of stones, and was commonly reputed to have been belonging to the Crown. Has known the same for 33 years, and was a servant there the greatest part of that time. The Complainant and his ancestors have been in possession of the said mills for 33 years, and they have enjoyed during that time the "mulcture toll, suite, and custom thereof for such corne wheat and mault as was there ground." Knows that John Sawyer the father, and Edmond the Grandfather of the Complainant were also seised of the said mills. He knows a "ffee ffarme rent was usually paid for the said mills and has heard it was about £10 per annum but knows not the certainty of the sums paid by the Complainant Edmond Sawyer and the said John Sawyer ffather of the Complainant to the Kings Maties Receiver or to such persons as claymed right therein by grant or authoritie from the Crowne. And that the said rent was paid as well for the said horsemill or mault mill as for the said Watermill." The owners and farmers of the said mills have claimed the custom and grinding of the malt and grain of all the Inhabitants of Kettering for 33 years past to his knowledge, and have usually had the same except about five or six "yeares last past there hath beene some interrupc̃ons and some other interrupc̃ons before that tyme." By the custom of the said manor (so far as deponent knows) all the tenants and inhabitants of Kettering ought to grind all their corn grain and malt which they shall spend in their dwelling houses at Kettering at the said mills. Some had been compelled to do so. "And that one Christopher Eady that farmed the parsonage was caused to pull down his quearne [*i.e.* a hand mill] neither did he know of any other that had a quearne at that tyme." He believes that the defendant, Henry Lynnell, is a Copyholder, "And knows that he is an Inhabitant

and householder in Ketteringe and soe hath beene for about ten yeeres last past and now lives in a house called or knowne by the name of the Swan in Kettering." He knew the defendant's predecessors who lived at the Swan, "viz., Samuell Lynnell and Edward Hackney before him and Edmond Hackney ffather of the said Edward before him." And they ground their corn at the said mills. Deponent was miller to Complainant and his father of the water and wind mills for about four years, and of the horse mill for about twenty-one years at several times. Defendant has ground no malt at the malt mill for about two years, but has erected a quern in an outhouse in his yard for grinding malt. The watermill (except it be a scarce time for water) and the malt mill are quite able to do all the grinding required by the Inhabitants of Kettering.

John Goodman of Blaston co. Leic. Esq. aged 67 says:—He believes the mills formerly belonged to the Crown "because he hath heard that Everard Goodman and one Hackney purchased the same from the Trustees that had them from the Crown, and the said Goodman and Hackney conveyed them to Mr. Sayer the Complt. Edmond's Grandfather." Believes the Complt. is seised of the mills in "ffee tayle." He also mentions that Everard Goodman was his father.

John Wood of Kettering "Joyner" aged 73 says:—"He once about 30 yeeres since payd the ffee ffarme rent for the said mills being sent therewith by the Comp̃lts ffather w^{ch} was ffive pounds for a halfe yeares rent to the King's receiver or Auditor." Has known the mills about 60 years, and the owners thereof have always claimed the custom and grinding of the Inhabitants of Kettering.

The result is not given.

The Mills.

In the grants mentioned in the earlier part of this book there are references to the Mills, and the Patent Rolls show that by letters patent under the great seal, dated at Westminster on the fifth day of July in the fifth year of Elizabeth, a 21 years' lease of the mills at Kettering was granted by the Crown to John Lane, of Kettering, Gentleman, an annual rent of £10, payable half-yearly at the feasts of St. Michael the Archangel and the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary, being reserved.[1]

---

[1] Pat. Rol. 18 Eliz. pt. 6. m. 8.

In 7 James I., being then in the hands of the Crown, the three mills (viz., a wind mill, water mill, and horse mill) were granted to Edward Ferrers of London Mercer and Francis Phelipps of London gentleman and their heirs—an annual rent of £10 being nevertheless reserved to the Crown in respect of the said mills.[1]

By Bargain and Sale dated 2nd November, 1610, Edward Ferrers and others (the grantees from the Crown) sold the Mills to Everard Goodman and others, and, as stated in the foregoing evidence of John Goodman, Goodman and Hackney by Bargain and Sale dated 26th January, 1611, sold the same to Edmund Sawyer.[2]

By the Inquisition held on 29th March, 7 Chas. I., on Edmund Sawyer's death, it was found that he died seised of the mills, that they were held of the King as of his manor of East Greenwich in Common socage and were worth 20s. per annum.[3]

The fee farm rent of £10 already referred to had in August, 1640, been granted to Sir John Lambe of Rothwell.[4]

The Mills with other property were sold to John Duke of Montagu, in 1724, by the Trustees of the South Sea Company, and are now the property of the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry. [5]

---

[1] Pat. Rol. 7 Jac. I., pars 16.
[2] Duke of Buccleuch's M.S.
[3] Inquis. Post. Mortem, 7 Chas. I., part 3, No. 43.
[4] State Papers. Domestic Series. Vol. 465, No. 84.
[5] Duke of Buccleuch's MS.

CHAPTER V.

Glossary of Old Terms used in the Inclosure Proceedings, written by John Jenkinson in 1845.

Acrement land.—Land which has no right of common.

Balk.—A strip of unploughed land. See Charities, *ante.*

Barton Holme.—A piece of land on the north side of the road near Barton Bridge.

Broomhill Close.—A piece of land on the north side of Mr. Bayes' Northall Brickyard.

Brown's Piece.—Land partly comprised in the Close adjoining Swan Street, late the property of Mrs. Worters, and recently sold by auction.

Cow Lane.—Near the Hall bridge.

Dane Meadow.—Mr. Roberts' Meadow.

Deep Slade.—Land belonging to the trustees of the late Mr. J. Gibbins, at the back of the Workhouse.

Dole.—Grass land with no arable land attached.

Dysebrook Meadow.—A small meadow between Broomhill and Nap-hill.

Flaxwell Furlong.—From the Hospital, two-thirds of the way to Pytchley Plank.

Hart's Hill Furlong.—North of Thorngate Ford.

Killing Holme.—A meadow near Pytchley field, now chiefly in Mr. C. B. Wright's meadow. It contained between 9 and 10 acres, and was divided into 40 equal parts called "doles," these doles being classed in 4 "Hides," called Fisher's, Sparrow's, Barnes', and Hackleton's. Every year four tickets were provided for the four hides, and these being drawn by lot determined how the hides should lie for the year.

Hide.—A hide was ten lands, leys, or doles, each of equal breadth. It did not denote any particular quantity of land. The distribution of land into hides is very ancient in England, mention being made of them in the laws of Ina, King of the West Saxons, from A.D. 689 to 728. The names of the hides in Kettering Lordship at

the time of the Enclosure were Roughton's, Roe's, Brown's, and Leasing's.

Lad's Holme.—A small meadow on the south side of the road near Barton Bridge.

Lime Pit Balk.—From Green Lane to the brook at the bottom of Windmill Close.

Links.—A sort of moor extending from the turnpike road on Warren Hill to Rothwell field.

Meadows' Hedge Furlong.—From Weekley Tollgate to Warkton foot-road.

Middle Field.—From Weekley Lordship to Barton Lordship, and from the town on the east of the Thrapston road to Barton tollgate, and from thence to Page's hedge.

Middle Holme.—Land between the Mill dam and Warkton field.

Naphill's or Napwells.—Now part of Mr. John Robinson's farm near the brook.

Netherfield.—From the west and south-west sides of Middle Field to Pytchley and Broughton Lordship.

Newland.—Fleur-de-Lis Street.

Page's Hedge.—An old hedge beyond Barton Tollgate, a short distance from Thrapston Turnpike road.

Rabbits' Leys.—Next the Links near Rothwell field.

Roundhill Furlong.—East of Flaxwell's Furlong.

Shepherd's Bush.—About half way from the Bowling Green to Beck Bridge.

Tyler's Furlong.—From the late Mrs. Worters' homestead to Wild's Headland.

Upper Field.—North and west of Middle Field.

Walcot's Dole.—On both sides of the Vista near Warkton bridge. It was about the same size and had the same divisions and owners as Killingholme.

Wild's Headland.—The footroad to Weekley hall Wood is upon it.

Windmill Ford.—At the foot of Windmill Close.

York Span Meadow, or York's Pan Meadow.—A small meadow near Samuel Langley's Close, not far from Broughton Lordship.

Yard Land.—A yard land is in some parishes as much as forty acres; in others it is as little as twenty acres. At Kettering the four hides were divided into—including the Duke of Montagu's

Estate or old enclosure—forty seven yardlands, each containing from thirty-two to forty acres, the average or standard being about thirty-four acres. These were in some instances subdivided into Half yard lands and Quarter yard lands. The occupier of each yard land was entitled to send four oxen or cows, four horses and thirty-two sheep to graze in the open fields. The occupiers of Half yard lands or Quarter yard lands were of course entitled to send a proportionate number.

CHAPTER VI.

Rotten Row and the Market Place.

(From an old Manuscript.[1]*)*

"The Inhabitants near the Market Place in Kettering were a long time desirous of having the Row of shops (called the Rotten Row) on the west side the Market Place taken down which was accompliced between the Year 1785 and 1789: there were 12 Shops with Chambers over them very irregularly Built and all Thatch[d]. Poor people living in some of the Chambers having no place to lay their Dirt &c. rendered it very disagreeable to the people that occupied the shops or lived near them.

"The South End of the Row was about 6 or 7 yards from the Front of S. Munn Grocer and Druggist Shop And the West end of the Front of T. Dash's the Bookseller's Shop And reached from South to North about 62 Yards the North end was equal with the Door of the shop formerly Mr. Maidwells but then of John Hennells and now of Jn° Eland's Draper. It stood so near Mr. Hennells now Mr. Elands windows that there was scarcely room to drive a Coach up to the Door."

Two houses at each end "were School hold. The Trustees agreed to permit their being taken down on condition of money being raised to buy Stock in the Publick Funds to bring in a Dividend equal to there then rent which was accordingly raised by Subscription and paid the Trustees of the said School and allso Twenty Pounds paid to the Minister Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor and by them laid out in land with other land in Broughton Field for which they gave a Bond of Indemnity to N. Collis and discharged the Twenty Shillings a year Paid them Charged on a Shop called Pettefers shop in the said Row.

"About the year 1806 the Market House in which the Stalls were sett from Market day to Market day being Old Lord Sondes

---

[1] MS. of the late T. H. Gotch, Esquire, Kettering.

PLAN OF

THE MARKET PLACE, KETTERING.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

REDUCED FROM AN OLD PLAN
BEARING DATE 1785.

Measured by Mr John Heppell, draper, with a yard wand 1785 - the Rotten Row then being about to be taken down

AUGUST 8th 1805 - THE MARKET HOUSE COMMONLY CALLED THE SESSIONS HOUSE FINISHED PULLING DOWN

TURNPIKE ROAD

ROTTEN ROW.

Nag's Head Lane.

NAG'S HEAD

BLAND BREECHES MAKER

WOOL PACK 6½ Yards | CLIPSHAM JOINER 5½ Yards | BRADSHAW BUTCHER 3½ Yards | DEXTER TAILOR 5½ Yards

10 Yards

Gateway

DEXTER PASTRYCOOK 5 Yards | HAMES SADLER 5 Yards | MEE BAKER 10½ Yards | CORNISH CUTLER 3 Yds

MUNN GROCER

Mr BAKER 13 Yards

CHATER SHOEMAKER

ANGEL 16 Yards

BAKER JOINER &c 8 Yards | WATSON BARBER 5 Yards | BRADSHAW BUTCHER 6½ Yards | KEMPSTON WOOL-HOUSE 5½ Yards | HAWTHORNE of OUNDLE 6 Yards | DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH 7 Yards | COLLINS FLOUR SIEVE 3 Yds

DEXTER TAILOR 3 Yds | CURWEN TAYLOR 6 Yards | SCOTT GLOVER 4 Yds | BUDDINGTON BUTCHER 5 Yards

6 Yards

HAND ALLOWED WATCHMAN 3½ Yds | BATES 5 Yds | WHITE HART 13 Yards

Gateway

WHITE HART PARLOR 5 Yds | WELLS BASKET 3½ Yds | GLEN BARBER 4½ Yds | WALKER & HALL MILLINERS 7 Yards

9½ Yards

Corporation Pble

Marked Cross | 8 Blocks

WHEATLEY JORDAN GROCER | MILLINER

Gateway

5 Yards STRANCE GROCER | 5 Yards WILDING MILLINER | 7 Yards KEMPSTON DRAPER | 8½ Yards KEMPSTON'S HOUSE | 3½ Yds ETCHES DRUGGIST | 3 Yds POMEROY BARBER

9 Yards HENNELL DRAPER | 5 Yds SHOP | 5 Yds HOUSE ROUGHTON SURGEON

8½ Yds SHOP HISLOP | 7 Yds HOUSE DRAPER

KNIGHT DRUGGIST 7 Yards | PETTIFER SHOEMAKER 8 Yards

Pasture Lane

Entry

COLLIS BOOK-SHOP

KEEP'S BRAZIER'S SHOP | KEEP'S HOUSE

Churchway 5 Yds

Gateway

SATCHELL'S CHEESESHOP

RECTORY MANOR.

EAST SIDE.

Scale of Yards.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60

CHAPTER VII.

Street Names.

The following notes respecting some old Kettering street names are nearly all taken verbatim from a pamphlet written by Robert Smith and published by Mr. T. Dash, in 1826. The date of the publication accounts for the fact that most of the names mentioned are those of old inhabitants, and it should be borne in mind by the reader.

George Lane.

So called from the George Inn, at the south-west corner; it used formerly to be called the Cock Lane, from a public-house having the sign of the Cock, which was there about one hundred years since.

Hazlewood's Lane.

This lane is the southward of the two Nag's Head Lanes. It has been called Hazlewood's Lane for a number of years; Mr. Hazlewood, a farmer and proprietor of land in Kettering, lived in the lowest house in that lane; it has sometimes been called Nag's Head Lane, from the Nag's Head public-house, which was the centre house where the two lanes meet: the extent of it is from the said centre house to the late Mr. D. Hennell's premises. It was probably in Mr. Hazlewood's house that the Independents met, in the early days of Mr. Maidwell's ministry, when persecution was not unknown. Indeed at the back of the house an aperture, now closed by a wooden shutter, is pointed out as the place from whence the worshippers made their escape to the open fields on an alarm being given.

Mr. Lamb's Lane.

This was anciently called Dyker's Lane, and afterwards Nag's Head Lane, but the Nag's Head has been removed some years.

Goosepasture Lane.

So called from a small common at the west end; this common, in the open field state of the lordship, was free to all the

Hollow
Lane

inhabitants the whole year round, and probably might anciently be stocked with geese; it has also sometimes been called Mill Lane, either from a hemp mill on the common, or, as some say, from a more ancient mill thereabout: the extent is from the Thrapstone and Harboro' Turnpike Road to Mr. Chater's meadow gate.

Bag Lane or Pudding-Bag Lane.

Said to be so denominated because a traveller must return the same way he went, or otherwise trespass; but this circumstance is not peculiar to this lane, as Hazlewood's Lane and Bridewell Lane were the same, even before the Inclosure.

Bellfounder's Lane.

So called because Thomas Eayre had his foundry here about 100 years since, though his dwelling-house was in Gold Street.

Wadcroft Lane.

Thus designated from a piece of land of that name, about ten acres, which was public common, before the enclosure, from Midsummer to Candlemas.

Newland Street.

So called, I apprehend, soon after it was built, which probably, compared with some other parts of the town, is of modern date; every man appears to have built his house upon his own land, as the lands in the field nearly corresponded with the houses before the enclosure, and many of the joints in the walls on the east side of the street still testify how wide the lands were; I never knew this street to have any other name: the extent of it is from the Pound to the corner of Gold Street. The weighing machine in *Newland Square* is mentioned in one of the Inclosure claims.

Swan Street.

So called from the sign of the Swan, which has been there many years; it was anciently called Dulmore Street. [This street is now known as Montagu Street].

Gold Street.

Used formerly to be called Paul's Street, from Hugh Paul and his son Matthew, eminent surgeons, who lived here, and whose are recorded in the Parish Register on June 3, 1782, and burials February, 1801, respectively.

Mr. Wright's Lane.

Also called Tanner's Lane—one, Wade, a tanner, having had his yard in the lane.

Job's Yard.

So called from one Job Roughton, who held the premises about 1700. The name Job Roughton occurs amongst the list of the first members of the Independent Chapel. Amongst the claims sent in to the Commissioners of the Inclosure Act is one from Mr. Newton (No. 65), who included a claim for the cottage rights belonging to a "House in Job's Yard, called the *Manor House,* in the occupation of Samuel Roughton." Possibly the house was Job Roughton's residence, and Samuel Roughton was one of his descendants.

Workhouse Lane.

So called because the Workhouse was situate there.

Bridewell Lane.

So designated because there was a County Bridewell[1] there. In his work on County Buildings, Mr. C. A. Markham, F.S.A., referring to Kettering Bridewell, says:—"At the January Sessions, 1747, it was ordered that a House of Correction should be built in Hog Leys. Joseph Warden, Victualler, was appointed Keeper, with a Salary of £12 a year and £13 for rent. This Bridewell was the back court of the Keeper's public house; there was a room for men 18½ feet by 16½ feet; down three steps a lodging room, 8 feet by 5½ feet, with an aperture in the door 15 in. by 11 in. Court 19½ feet square. For women a separate court, and a room about the same size as the men's day room: clay floors: windows close glazed, no water.

"In 1842 there were small Lockups in School Lane, and a little later a Lockup in Workhouse Lane."

The Horse Market.

It used anciently to be called the Hog Leys, because in former times it was, in a great degree, covered with grass, upon which the pigs used to feed, but of late years many respectable buildings have been erected; but as the Horse Fair has been there established, it

---

[1] By an order of the Northamptonshire October Sessions, of 27 George II. the Keeper of the House of Correction at Kettering was ordered to publickly whip Sarah Andrews, at Corby. N. N. and Q., vol. i., p. 233.

is thought that the Horse Market will better designate the place than its ancient uncleanly appellation: its extent is from the entrance into Job's Yard to the Old National School.

Parkstile Lane.

Various etymologies have been proposed to account for the word, but none of them are satisfactory; it has been so called from time immemorial. [It is now known as Market Street.]

Goadby's Yard.

Is in the Rectory Manor, and has been so denominated for a number of years; one John Goadby was proprietor here about the beginning of the last century.

Bakehouse Hill.

So called from the manorial bakehouse which was situate there, and was only pulled down in 1865. This bakehouse was, doubtless, the common bakehouse referred to in the grants mentioned elsewhere, and it once had the monopoly of baking in Kettering. Some MS. notes written, it is believed, by Mr. Robert Smith, and sometime since in the Rector's possession, state that when the monopoly existed it was exceedingly difficult to bake bread at all, and that a day or two's notice had to be given before the inhabitants could be accommodated.

In an old case[1] as to the suit and grist of the mills, tried in 5 Charles I., one of the witnesses, Lyon Cave, of Burton Lattymer, husbandman, aged eighty, says:—He "hath heard S^{r} Edward Watson k^{t} long since Steward of his Ma^{ts} Mannor and Courts in Kettering give in Chardge att the said Courts to all the Inhabitants of Ketteringe aforesaid to . . . bake their bread at the kinge's Bakehouse. . . . And the inhabitants did usually . . . bake all their bread at the king's Bakehouse for the time of 30 years togeather to his knowledge."

---

[1] Exch. Dep. by Com. Easter 5 Chas. I. No. 4, *re* Sawyer *versus* Edye and Smith.

CHAPTER VIII.

Water Supply.

The town appears to have much suffered in the past for want of a proper water supply, and as early as June 21st, 1842, a prospectus of a proposed scheme for supplying Kettering with water, from a spring on Warren Hill, was issued by one Preston. Preston's idea was to take the water by means of pipes "to a reservoir at the top of the park. Thence the water was to be conveyed to Mr. Henson's stoneyard in Goose pasture lane, and from there to a tank at the top of Workhouse Lane. From this tank the water was to be conducted all over the town by channel bricks laid on a bed of barrow lime, each joint made with cement." The cost would be, it was estimated, about 1s. in the pound on the town's valuation of houses and other buildings.

Nothing, however, came of the proposal, and it was not until the formation of the Kettering Waterworks Company in the year 1871 that the question of water supply was grappled with. The works of the company originally consisted of a deep well and pumping station at Weekley, estimated to be sufficient for the supply of a population of about 10,000; but owing to the rapid increase in the population (which at the census of 1871 was 7,184, and at that of 1881 was 11,094), it became necessary, in the years 1885, 1886, and 1887, to extend these by the addition of other wells at Weekley, a well and pumping station near the company's reservoir at Kettering, and other supplementary works. Notwithstanding these new works, it was soon evident that a further extension was necessary, and it was ultimately decided to form a storage reservoir of about seventy acres to impound the water of two streams at Thorpe Malsor, with a pumping station and all other necessary works, at an estimated total cost of £28,500, the requisite powers being obtained by the Kettering Waterworks Act, 1889. The water of the two streams

is sufficient in point of quantity to provide a supply ample for all the needs of a population of 36,000. The new works have been in hand some time, and are nearly completed.[1]

---

[1] See Particulars and Conditions of Sale of certain shares in the company sold 5th June, 1891.

CHAPTER IX.

Huxloe Hundred.

The hundred of Huxlow is bounded on the east by Higham Ferrers hundred, on the north by the hundreds of Navisford and Corby, by Rothwell and Orlingbury hundreds on the west, and on the south by the hundred of Hamfordsho.

"This hundred, written in domesday book Hocheslau, was one of the eight hundreds in Northamptonshire, of which the abbat and convent of Peterborough were possessed, soon after the foundation of the monastery. Part of it, at the time of the general survey, was named Neveslund hundred, which in Henry II's reign was divided into Suthnaveslunt and Northnaveslunt. In Hockeslawe were the townships of Twywell, Slipton, Sudburt, Lofwic, Drayton, Yslep, Audewycle, Benifield now comprized in the hundred of Polbroke, Bernewell, and Lilleford. In Suthnaveslunt hundred were Irtlingburg, both the Adingtons, Wodeford, and Thingden: in Northnaveslunt were Craneford, Barton, Werketon, Kettering, Grafton, and Burton. In the twenty fourth year of Edward I this division was not subsisting, but the whole was called Huckeslowe hundred, and comprized the several villages which now compose it. In the ninth of Edward II the abbat of Peterborough was certified to be lord of it. In the twenty sixth year of Henry VI the convent obtained a grant from the crown to themselves and successors, of the goods and chattels of all felons, fugitives, and persons outlawed, with all fines, issues, forfeitures, amerciaments, fines *pro licentia concordandi*, within the said hundred. With these privileges they had the return and execution of all writs, precepts, and processes whatsoever, with liberty to hold pleas in withernam, view of frank-pledge, assize of bread and beer, and other immunities.

"In the thirtieth year of Henry VIII the monastery of Peterborough with all its lands and liberties was surrendered into the king's hands, who two years afterwards settled Huxlow among other hundreds, with the above-mentioned franchises, on queen Catherine for the term of her life. In the ninth year of James

I[1] being then in the possession of the crown, the hundred of Huxlow was granted by two letters patent, with all the said liberties and privileges, to John Eldred and William Whitmore esquires, who in the eleventh of the same reign bargained and sold the said hundred to Sir Edward Montague and his heirs. In the thirteenth year of this reign, Sir Edward Montague was required by writ of *quo warranto* to shew by what title he claimed the hundred of Huxlow with these rights and privileges, who pleading the enjoyment of his respective predecessors, by grant from the crown, had judgment given in his favour.

"His Grace the Duke of Montague is the present lord of it."[2] The hundred is now the property of the present Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry.

---

[1] This grant makes no mention of any suit or acknowledgment due to Huxloe Hundred Court from Kettering.—Duke of Buccleuch's MS.

[2] Bridges' Northamptonshire, Vol. II., p. 203.

CHAPTER X.

Register of Rainfall

Kept at Kettering in the County of Northampton. Latitude 52° 23′ 48″.
Rain Gauge.—Diameter eight inches. Height of top above Ground,

Year.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.
	inches.	inches.	inches.	inches.	inches.	inches.	inches.
1864	·99	·78	4·01	1·54	1·77	·96	·56
1865	2·66	2·29	1·36	1·21	1·61	1·63	3·88
1866	2·39	3·04	1·40	1·34	1·87	1·81	2·75
1867	2·70	1·59	2·29	2·54	2·40	2·03	2·90
1868	2·58	1·65	1·64	1·50	·61	·40	·09
1869	3·02	1·29	1·63	1·94	4·19	1·53	·37
1870	1·31	1·42	1·15	·46	·97	·84	1·41
1871	·91	1·30	1·45	2·66	·65	2·95	4·11
1872	4·25	1·67	1·79	3·45	1·92	3·30	3·10
1873	1·80	1·36	1·76	·80	1·61	3·00	1·56
1874	1·99	2·05	·82	1·11	1·10	·34	·90
1875	2·75	1·43	·98	1·79	1·50	3·61	7·34
1876	2·01	2·65	2·72	3·41	·71	1·38	·99
1877	3·94	1·76	1·80	2·55	2·32	1·11	2·53
1878	1·53	1·73	·80	1·94	4·37	2·46	1·25
1879	1·92	2·74	1·92	3·34	2·28	3·77	3·99
1880	·43	2·89	1·45	1·82	1·23	3·29	4·95
1881	1·01	3·20	2·10	1·34	1·58	2.23	3·65
1882	1·63	1·89	1·39	3·63	1·54	2·70	3·24
1883	2·87	3·28	1·22	2·66	1·76	3·99	4·20
1884	2·19	·53	1·25	1·62	1·28	1·09	4·46
1885	1·71	2·34	·94	2·21	2·66	2·35	·25
1886	2·90	·26	2·13	2·39	4·52	·94	3·25
1887	2·51	·57	1·59	·96	2·04	1·32	·75
1888	·79	2·75	2·67	1·75	1·08	1·51	5·08
1889	1·02	2·50	2·30	2·58	3·42	·82	2·96
1890	1·98	·88	1·95	1·09	1·67	1·88	2·70
[27]	55·79	49·84	46·51	53.63	52·66	53·24	73·22
	2·06	1·84	1·72	1·99	1·95	1·97	2·71

FROM 1864 TO 1890 INCLUSIVE.

Longitude 0° 43′ 30″ W. Observer, John Wallis, Montagu Street.
fifteen inches. Ordnance Survey, above Sea level, 300 feet.

August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Totals.	Year.
inches.	inches.	inches.	inches.	inches.	inches.	
·48	1·82	1·90	1·65	1·19	17·65	1864
5·28	·55	4·96	2·17	1·36	28·96	1865
4·90	4·48	2·39	2·15	2·07	30·59	1866
2·45	2·32	2·23	·49	1·77	25·71	1867
2.28	2·82	2·38	1·55	3·80	21·30	1868
1·13	3·40	·98	1·97	3·59	25·04	1869
2·78	1·10	3·31	1·18	2·31	18·24	1870
·56	3·92	1·32	1·16	1·03	22·02	1871
2·57	2·18	3·79	3·67	3·36	35·05	1872
3·20	1·50	1·89	1·57	·44	20·49	1873
2·48	3·65	2·89	2·36	2·07	21·76	1874
3·25	2·51	6·72	4·42	1·23	37·53	1875
1·77	4·66	1·47	3·37	6·10	31·24	1876
3·80	1·57	1·48	2·60	1·95	27·41	1877
4·73	1·02	2·64	3·03	1·66	27·16	1878
2·95	2·54	·63	·91	·92	27·91	1879
1·04	3·90	6·38	2·10	2·93	32·41	1880
4·55	1·58	3·34	2·91	3·03	30·52	1881
1·89	2·43	5·10	3·53	3·41	32·38	1882
·96	5·69	2·02	3·61	1·26	33·52	1883
1·91	1·29	1·05	1·49	1·93	20·09	1884
4·06	3·12	4·84	3·52	·85	28·85	1885
1·01	1·50	3·11	2·46	3·76	28·23	1886
1·07	1·46	2·00	2·06	1·27	17·60	1887
1·79	1·19	·38	3·42	1·56	23·97	1888
1·96	2·13	2·43	·76	1·33	24·21	1889
1·76	·68	1·54	3·17	·72	20·02	1890
66·61	65·01	73·17	63·28	56·90	709·86	
2·47	2·41	2·71	2·34	2·10	26·28	

PART VII.

THE WORTHIES.

Allen, Thomas, was born in 1682, educated at Wadham Coll., Oxford, Vicar of Irchester 1705—1714-15, and Rector of Kettering from 1714-15 to 1755. What little is known of him tends to show that he was a man of much learning and devotedness. From the Church Registers it appears his wife's name was Dorothy, and that he lost by illness two sons as they were nearing manhood. He published several books, and from a letter to the Rev. Mr. Booth, dated 28th July, 1752, and which appeared in the "Gentleman's Magazine" in 1804 (Part I., p. 405), he was evidently desirous of printing further MSS. which he had by him, for he says, "I myself am upwards of 70 years of age, and have been in the ministry upwards of 47 years and been rector of Kettering 38 years. No part of which time have I been idle; but have wrote and prepared for the Press many valuable MS.; two of which have been printed; the one, 'The Practice of a Holy Life,' the other, 'The Christian's sure guide to Eternal Glory.' Both of which have this singular honour done them, as to be translated into the Russian language, for the use of all Moscovy. It grieves me that I am unable to print . . . [other works which I have ready] . . . and I am willing to lay [them] at your feet if you can find it in your heart to help an old clergyman like yourself." He concludes by saying that "the publication of one of these books, especially a translation of the Apostolical Fathers, would be a gallant piece of service done to the Church of England. All the books shall be your own to give away." The old man's wish was partly gratified, but whether by the aid of Dr. Booth or not it is impossible to say, for a work of his, in blank verse, entitled "The New Birth or Christian Regeneration," appeared in 1753. This work is dedicated to their Royal Highnesses George, Prince of Wales, and Prince Edward, as a "little

REV. THOMAS ALLEN.

Piece of Christian Poetry in the Miltonian Style." The preface is very quaint, and runs as follows :—"The Design of these Verses, under God, aims at no less than the regenerating the whole British Nation, into whose Hands they shall fall, who as they are Partakers of one heavenly Calling, eat of one Bread, are Parts of one Body, so ought to have one Spirit, and one Hope of their Calling, to fit them for Glory: Since,

> A Verse may find him, who a Sermon flies,
> And turn Delight into a Sacrifice.

All that have Mr. Milton's fine Poem, which too abruptly leaves off at our Saviour's Conquest over the Devil's Temptations, would do well to furnish themselves with this little Piece, which compleats, or rather realizeth his Design; what it wants of his Loftiness, is abundantly made up in Truth, and Truth's Chariot, even without an Elijah in it, soars higher than any Poetic Flights whatsoever; but where Faith hold the Reins it cannot fail to give the Soul some Antepast of its future Joys, some transient View at least of the heavenly Canaan, long before its Admission into it, on the Conquest of its spiritual Enemies. May God induce the Hearts of all Parents and Ministers, to oblige those under their Charge, to repeat at proper Times, some Chapters of it, as David, when he proposed the Conversion of his Subjects Hearts, took this very Method when he composed his Alphabetical Psalms."

A portrait published in his Practice of a Holy Life (one edition of which appeared in 1716) shows (as will be seen from the reproduction of it) Mr. Allen, seated in his study, clothed in his robes. He died in 1755, or rather as it is recorded by the inscription on his gravestone in Sawyer's aisle, "while performing ye public duty of evening prayer in this church he ascended from his master's work to his master's joy, Saturday evening, 31 of May, 1755."

Brine, John, was born at Kettering, in 1703, and was a divine of considerable celebrity amongst the Calvinistical Baptists. His parents[1] were poor and he had but little education, soon being put to work at the staple trade of the town. He worked at it for some time, as did also his friend, Dr. Gill, who was some years his senior,

[1] Elijah Brine and Mary Graves, married at Kettering Church, in September, 1701. The former was baptised at the Parish Church on 11th September, 1669, and was the son of Elijah Brine and Alice Sudborough, who were married at the same place, on 14th November, 1668.—Parish Registers.

and under whose ministry he received his first serious impressions. About 1718 he became a member of the Kettering Baptist Church, of which Mr. Thos. Wallis was then the pastor, and at this time must have worked hard to acquire the knowledge of languages and other information which he undoubtedly came to possess. Whilst at Kettering he married Anne, a daughter of Rev. John Moore, a minister of the Particular Baptist Denomination at Northampton, from whom he inherited Hutter's Hebrew Bible, which was to him, at that time, a treasure of no small value. He was called into the ministry by the Church at Kettering, and after preaching for some time in an occasional way, received a call, which he accepted, to a Particular Baptist Church at Coventry. In that town he continued a few years, till, in 1730, he went to succeed Mr. Morton, at Currier's Hall, Cripplegate. His removal to London brought him into contact with Dr. Gill, with whom he soon formed a close friendship. When the Doctor gave up his Wednesday Evening Lecture at Great East Cheap, it was carried on for some years by Mr. Brine, in connection with other ministers, and he also preached in his turn at the Sunday Evening Lecture in Devonshire Square. In fact, during the 35 years that Mr. Brine resided in London, he took a principal lead in the public transactions that concerned his own denomination. His first wife died in 1750, and Dr. Gill preached a sermon at her funeral, which was afterwards published. Mr. Brine's second wife, Mary, long survived him, the tombstone recording the fact that she "Obiit 31 Jan. 1784 Aetat 84 years." Mr. Brine lived for many years in Bridgewater Square, but during his last illness he took lodgings at Kingsland, where he died on 21st February, 1765, in the 63rd year of his age. He was buried in Bunhill Fields. He left orders that no funeral sermon was to be preached for him, but Dr. Gill preached a sermon which was afterwards published, and in a footnote to which a slight reference is made to Brine. "Mr. Brine's manners were very much those of a gentleman. He was a man of considerable attainments and excelled in his knowledge of the learned languages. He possessed good ministerial abilities and was very faithful in the discharge of his pastoral duties. He was, moreover, a man of exemplary life and conversation. His publications are very numerous, but consist chiefly of sermons, besides a few distinct treatises designed to vindicate the doctrine of free grace." [Vide "A Treatise on Various Subjects . . . . . by the late Mr. John Brine . . . Revised by James Upton. To which is added a Sketch of the Author's Life. London, 1813."]

Browne, John, was not only noted in his day, as recorded elsewhere, as an official under "ye late Act touching marriages," but he was also noted in another way; for amongst "The Names of such that are in Commission in this County who have all allong given the power unto the beast and have fought with the lambe and to this day thinke they doe God good service in Imprissonning of his servants and abusing them Contrary to the righteous law of God & Contrary to the law of the Nation" is the name of "John Browne of Kettering [who] hath Committed 18 freinds to prisson and not one of them were proved transgressers of the law of the Nation, and would not release some of them when there times were out, hath Joyned with Butler in pulling freinds forth of ther Meeting beating & abussing them, and said that he hoped to have a place at gods right hand in heauen for his punishing the quakers, and wished he had more power in his hand. A proud man and a bloodye persecuter. A shame to true Magistracie."[1] "Jno. Browne of Kettering," too, was one of those who by order of the Protector and his Council, 14th March, 1654-55, were appointed commissioners for Militia to suppress insurrections and preserve the peace for the counties of Northampton and Rutland.[2]

Corrie, Henry, Rector of Kettering 1838-1846. "The family of Corrie was of Scottish origin and traced their descent from the Macphersons of Clunie, one of whom in troublous times changed his name to Corrie for purposes of concealment. Roger Corrie, born about 1635, was one of the old Covenanters. His grandson John Corrie, who was born in 1722, was present at the battle of Culloden. His son John married in 1771 Anne, daughter of MacNab of Ferlochan, in the parish of Ardchattan, Argyleshire. Their family consisted of four sons and four daughters, the elder of whom were born at Ardchattan, where Mr. and Mrs. Corrie resided for some years. They subsequently removed and settled in England, where Mr. Corrie took Holy Orders, and was appointed to the curacy of Colsterworth, in the County of Lincoln, which he held for nearly 50 years, being also vicar of Osbournby in the same county, and rector of Morcott in the county of Rutland. In the church of the latter parish he lies buried.[3] . . . . His third son, Henry Corrie, was

---

[1] State Papers. Dom. Series. 1655. Vol. 102, p. 113.

[2] N. N. and Q., vol. iii., p. 63, 64.

[3] He died "at Burton, near Kettering," in April, 1829.—*Simpson's Obituary.*

first educated as a physician, taking his M.D. degree, but he subsequently took Holy Orders, and was rector of Blatherwycke in Northamptonshire, and finally of Kettering in the same county. He was a man of considerable power and weight of character, genial in disposition and beloved by all who knew him."[1] Henry Corrie appears to have been curate here in May, 1832, although he did not become Rector until 1838. He died at Leamington on 12th November, 1846, and was buried at Kettering.

Eayre Family.—In his *Church Bells of Northamptonshire,*[2] Mr. North thus writes of this family:—"The Parish Registers of Kettering shew that several families of Eayre, Ayre, or Aire were living there in the latter part of the seventeenth, and early in the eighteenth centuries. John Eayre was Constable in 1662. He and Thomas Eayre (probably his brother) signed the Kettering Vestry Book in 1714, and the latter also signed, with others, the order in the same book, and in the same year, for recasting the ancient church bells. The new bells were cast by Richard Sanders, of Bromsgrove, from which we may infer that the Kettering foundry was not then opened. The Eayres were clock makers, and as such Thomas Eayre's name appears upon the fourth bell then cast. 'Thomas Ayre, senr.,' was buried 15th April, 1716. I gather from the Register that he was the Thomas Eayre the clock maker just mentioned, and that he had two sons, 'Thomas son of Thomas Eayre and Anne his wife [who] was born 26th August, 1691, and baptized 21st January, 1711,' and 'Mr. Josh. Eayre, an adult person, baptized October 26th, 1731.' This Joseph Eayre, soon after his baptism, opened a foundry at St. Neots.

"It would appear that very shortly after the death of Thomas Eayre the elder, his son Thomas Eayre, in partnership with (as I suppose) his uncle John Eayre, opened a bell foundry at Kettering, for the second bell at Cranford St. John is inscribed 'Thomas et Johannes Eayre de Kettering fecerunt,' and is dated 'Oct. 1717,' and other bells, all dated 1718, were from their foundry. I do not

---

[1] *Memorials of the life of George Elwes Corrie, D.D.*, edited by M. Holroyd, Cambridge: At the University Press, 1890. G. E. Corrie, the subject of this memoir, was born at Colsterworth, 28th April, 1793, and was the youngest of the family. He and Henry Corrie were closely linked, and "Kettering was the vacation home of Geo. Corrie during the life of his brother Henry."

[2] *The Church Bells of Northamptonshire*, by Thomas North, F.S.A. Leicester: Samuel Clarke. 1878.

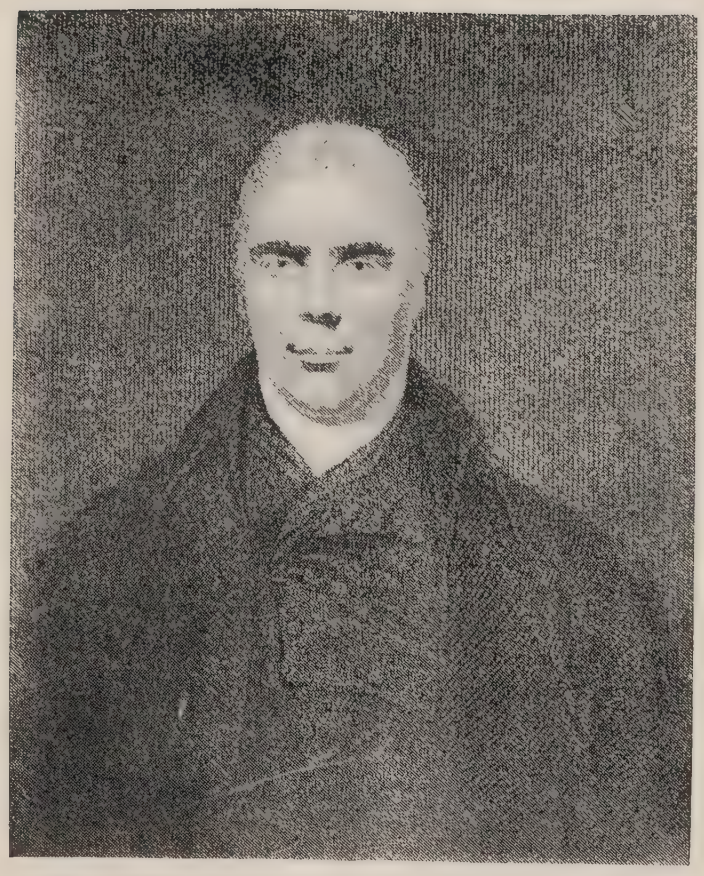
know the date of the death of John Eayre,[1] but I find no bells bearing his name of a later date than 1718, and the Kettering foundry appears soon after to have passed into the sole management of Thomas Eayre, whose bells soon became plentiful. The business of clockmaker was also continued by him. It was of this Thomas Eayre that the Rev. J. Ludlam subsequently wrote:—'I saw a great deal of the art of bell-founding in the time of the late Mr. Thomas Eayre of Kettering, a man who had a true taste for it, and spared no expense to make improvements. Much of tone depends on minute circumstances in the shape, and Mr. Eayre had crooks or forms cut in thin boards, carefully taken from the inside and outside of all the good bells he could find . . . .' Thomas Eayre was buried on January 3rd, 1758, in Kettering Church, most probably in the south aisle of the Chancel, and in the same grave as his wife Susannah, who had died three years previously, but there is no inscription. From his will, dated 24th September, 1757, we learn that he had then four children: three daughters, Ann, Sarah, and Frances, to each of whom he left a legacy of £50, and one son, Thomas, who was his sole executor. This Thomas Eayre (who married Eliz. Marshall, on 11th Oct., 1748) was associated with his father in the foundry, and carried it on for a few years after his father's death. Mr. Ludlam says he was 'a good bellfounder,' and that 'he cast a dish bell of 5 or 6 cwt. for the church clock of Boston, Lincolnshire, the tone of which was very deep and wild.' . . . About 1761-2 Eayre is said to have become bankrupt, and the foundry was closed. The bells cast at Kettering range in date from 1717 to 1762, and are generally well cast and good in tone. Thomas Eayre's favourite inscriptions were: 'Omnia fiant ad gloriam Dei,' 'Gloria Deo soli,' 'Gloria Patri Filio et Spiritui Sancto,' and 'I. H. S. Nazarenus Rex Judeorum Fili Dei miserere mei.' He generally also placed the date and his name as founder, and used a liberal supply of Croslets fitchy to fill up vacant spaces." The foundry was in the lane now known as Wadcroft, but formerly as "Bell-Founder's Lane."

Fish, M.A., Henry, was born at Hooton Pagnell, near Doncaster, on 5th August, 1802. He joined the Wesleyan Society

[1] It is possible John Eayre, the bellfounder, was a *son* of John Eayre, the Constable, for amongst the baptisms for the year 1661 is this entry:—"John the son of John aire baptised the 12th of February."

in his eighteenth year, was accepted as a candidate for the ministry in 1823, and appointed to the Worcester Circuit. By the Conference of 1824 he was appointed to Kettering, where he worked with the earnestness which was one of his characteristics. At Cottingham he formed an acquaintance with "Old Master Parker," the Class Leader there, who was a noted botanist, and thus formed a taste for botany, a science which in after years he much studied. Indeed it was in recognition of a valuable present of botanical and mineralogical specimens collected and sent by him to the Middletown University, U.S., that about 1838 he had conferred on him the honorary degree of Master of Arts in that University. Declining a cordial invitation to remain a third year in Kettering, in 1826, he removed to Brackley, and from there went to the Manchester Conference, where he was ordained. His marriage with Miss Cole, of Kettering, followed. During the next twenty-one years he exercised a successful ministry in several of the more important circuits of the Connexion. "His tall, well-formed figure, his fine, expressive face, the extraordinary energy and eloquence of his delivery, the striking clearness of his divisions, the extreme, sometimes bitter, pungency of his remarks," could not but make an impression on his hearers. In 1847 he was compelled, by the failure of his voice, to retire from full work, and from that year to his death, on 16th January, 1879, he resided as a supernumerary at Kettering. During his long retirement, so far as his infirmity allowed, he preached in his own circuit and neighbourhood, and occasionally visited scenes of former labour. As a writer he was well known and esteemed. His controversial works on Romanism rendered good service in their day, and for many years he contributed to Methodist periodical literature. His edition of "Charles Wesley's Poetical Version of the Psalms of David" is, too, well known. [Condensed from Memoirs in the "Wesleyan-Methodist Magazine" for May, 1883; the "Methodist Recorder" of July 29th, 1879; and the "Minutes of the 136th Yearly Methodist Conference."]

Fuller, Andrew, was born at Wicken, a village about seven miles from Ely, on the 6th February, 1754. His parents, Robert and Philippa Fuller, occupied a small farm at Wicken, and it would appear that his ancestors had lived in those parts since the times of the Stuarts. He had two brothers, Robert, a farmer at Isleham, born in 1747; and John, who was born in 1748, and resided at Little Bentley, Essex. In 1760 his parents removed to Soham, and



REV. ANDREW FULLER.

as he grew up Andrew Fuller was employed in farm work there. In April, 1770, he joined the Soham Baptist Church and occasionally delivered a discourse, and in February, 1775, after a probation of twelve months, accepted a call to the pastorate. In December, 1776, he married Sarah Gardiner, a member of his church, and whose father resided chiefly at Newmarket. In October, 1782, after grave consideration as to the advisability of taking such a step, he removed to Kettering, and became pastor of the Baptist Church there on 7th October, 1783. Mrs. Fuller died on 23rd August, 1792. It was in this year—namely, on the 2nd October, 1792—that the Baptist Missionary Society, in which from its commencement to the time of his death Mr. Fuller played such a prominent part as Secretary, was formed at the Mission House, Kettering. On 30th December, 1794, he married Ann Coles, daughter of the Rev. Wm. Coles, pastor of the Baptist Church at Maulden, in Bedfordshire. During the succeeding years of his life in addition to his pastoral work, Mr. Fuller not only travelled much in Great Britain and Ireland in order to place the claims of the Missionary Society before the public, but also carried on an extensive correspondence on its behalf. Nor was he by any means idle as regarded literary work, for besides numerous pamphlets respecting the mission work he also wrote several theological treatises and articles which at the time gave rise to much discussion.[1] His health gradually broke down, and he died on 7th May, 1815. His congregation placed in the old chapel the tablet to his memory which is now to be seen at the side of the pulpit in the present building. Mrs. Fuller survived her husband some ten years.

Gill, Dr. John.—This learned divine of the Baptist denomination, who was for many years during the last century considered "the champion of the anti-pedo-baptists and the supralapsarian tenets of Calvinism," was born on 23rd November, 1697, in Dulmore (now known as Montagu) Street, in this town. His parents were

[1] His two most noteworthy controversial works were perhaps "The Gospel worthy of All Acceptation ; or the duty of sinners to believe in Jesus Christ," published about 1784, and "The Calvinistic and Socinian Systems examined and compared as to their Moral Tendency : in a series of Letters, addressed to the Friends of vital and practical religion," published in 1793. [See Memoirs of The Life and Writings of the Rev. Andrew Fuller, by J. W. Morris. A Memoir of the Life and Writings of Andrew Fuller, by his grandson, Thos. Ekins Fuller. 1863.]

Edward and Elizabeth Gill, and his father was sometime a Deacon of the Baptist Church, and was one of those who seceded from the Independents. John Gill was early sent to Kettering Grammar School, where he soon outstript his companions in classical acquirements. At eleven years of age, when he left the school, he had gone through the common school books, and had read many of the chief Latin classics, besides attaining considerable proficiency in the Greek language. After leaving the grammar school he divided his time between helping his father and studying. Before he was nineteen he had read all the Greek and Latin authors that fell in his way; and, without any other assistance than Buxtorf's Lexicon and Grammar, had surmounted the chief difficulties in the Hebrew language, so as to be able to read the Hebrew Bible with great ease and pleasure. However, being educated in the tenets of Calvinism by his father, and having his mind under strong religious impressions, he was, when twelve years of age, touched by a sermon (on Gen. iii. 9, "Where art thou?") preached by Mr. Wm. Wallis, and was received into the communion of the Baptist church at Kettering, on 1st November, 1716, being baptized by Mr. Thos. Wallis "in a river." He had not been long a member before he began preaching in private, and was soon afterwards called by the congregation to the occasional exercise of the ministry in public. In 1717 he removed to Higham Ferrers, to assist in a new church there, and it was there that he became acquainted with Elizabeth Negus,[1] whom he married in 1718, and shortly after returned to Kettering. In 1719 he was invited to become pastor of the Baptist congregation in Horsly-down, London, and was ordained to that office in the twenty-second year of his age. He continued pastor of this church during the rest of his life (fifty-one years), and at the same time continued his literary studies with great assiduity, and entered into many a controversy. He also filled the office of a Wednesday evening lecturer nearly twenty-seven years (1729-56).

In 1748 the degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by the Marischal College and University of Aberdeen, without his solicitation or privity, "on account of his knowledge of the scriptures, of the oriental languages, and his learned defence of the scriptures against deists and infidels." By his very laborious application, however, Dr. Gill at length, "brought on a decay of nature," and on 14th October, 1771, in the seventy-fourth year of

---

[1] She died Oct. 10, 1764, aet. 67 years.

JOHN GILL, D.D.

his age, he died at his house, in Camberwell, Surrey. He was buried in Bunhill Fields.

He was the author of an "An Exposition of the Old and New Testament," in nine volumes folio, published at different periods from 1746 to 1766; "A body of divinity," 1769 and 1770, in three volumes quarto; "The cause of God and Truth," 1735, &c., in defence of Calvinism against the Arminians; Exposition of the "Song of Solomon," 1728; "The Prophecies of the Old Testament respecting the Messiah, considered, and proved to be literally fulfilled in Jesus," 1728, 8vo., chiefly written in answer to "Collins's Scheme of Literal Prophecy considered;" a treatise "on the Doctrine of the Trinity," 1731, 8vo.; "A dissertation on the Antiquity of the Hebrew Language, letters, vowel points, and accents," 1767, 8vo.; together with numerous single sermons, controversial tracts on baptism, &c. Dr. Gill's extensive knowledge of the Hebrew language and Rabbinical writings, it seems, were owing to some peculiar circumstances. A short time after his arrival in London, he became intimately acquainted with a dissenting Minister, who had obtained possession of a number of valuable writings from a Jewish teacher, his instructor in Hebrew, &c.; and, upon the death of this gentleman, Mr. Gill purchased most of them. Having afterwards contracted an acquaintance with one of the most learned Jewish Rabbis, he read everything that came in his way, and likewise made himself master of the other Oriental languages, which, by their affinity, contribute to illustrate that of the Hebrew, [Sermons and Tracts by the late reverend and learned John Gill. D.D. A new edition. London, 1814].

Gotch, Frederick William, was born at Kettering on 31st August, 1807, and was the son of John Cooper Gotch, who was a prominent Baptist in the town. Having decided to enter the Baptist ministry he went to the Baptist College in Stokes-Croft, Bristol, in 1832, and in 1836 became pastor of the church at Boxmoor, where he remained for nine years. He was a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, successively taking B.A., M.A., and LL.D. degrees. From Boxmoor he removed to Stepney College, where he remained as tutor till 1845, when he was invited to undertake the office of classical and mathematical tutor at Bristol, In 1846 he became one of the examiners in Scripture to the London University. Dr. Gotch's colleague at Bristol was the well-known Mr. Crisp, with whom he maintained the most affectionate relations to the end of his life.

On Mr. Crisp's retirement from residence in the College, Dr. Gotch became resident tutor in 1861, when he had the entire charge of the Institution. On the death of Mr. Crisp in 1868, Dr. Gotch became president, and in 1882, honorary president, holding that position till his decease on 17th May, 1890. Along with Dr. Benjamin Davies he was a member of the Old Testament Revision Committee, and these two Baptists were by no means the least among their distinguished colleagues. Dr. Gotch attached great importance to this honourable labour, so much so that he said, if compelled to choose between the College and the Revision Committee, he would resign his position in the College. His recognised scholarship is attested by his contributions to Smith's "Bible Dictionary," the "Encyclopaedia Britannica," Kitto's journal of "Sacred Literature," "The Cyclopaedia of Biblical Literature," and other standard works. Dr. Gotch was greatly respected for his learning, worth, and gentle simplicity by his students and all who knew him. Modest and unobtrusive, he never shrank from any call of duty. He took a prominent part on the Committee of the Baptist Missionary Society, and in the church at Cotham Grove, Bristol, which he assisted in forming, and of which he was a deacon. [*Vide* Baptist Magazine, July, 1887; British Weekly Newspaper, 23rd and 30th May, 1890; and The Baptist Hand-Book for 1891.]

Knibb, William, was the son of Thomas and Mary Knibb, and was born at Kettering on 7th September, 1803, his father, who resided in part of the house in Market Street, now occupied by Mr. Martin, the fruiterer, being a tradesman[1] of that town. His mother, whose maiden name was Dexter, was a member of the Independent Church, Kettering, and her piety was much esteemed. He was educated at Kettering Grammar School, then under the mastership of Rev. Jas. Hogg. On leaving school he entered the service of Mr. J. G. Fuller,[2] a printer, who in 1816 removed his business from Kettering to Bristol, Wm. Knibb and his elder brother, Thos. Knibb, going with him. Mr. Knibb having in 1824 proffered his services to the Baptist Missionary Society, he was requested to go out to Jamaica, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of his brother Thomas, who had in 1822 gone out to Kingston as an emissary of the Society. The request of the Society was complied with, and having on 5th October, 1824, married Miss Mary Watkin,

[1] A tailor, it is believed.

[2] A son of the Rev. Andrew Fuller.

a member of the church at Broadmead, he sailed on 5th November in that year for Kingston, where he arrived in February, 1825, and at once took charge of Mr. Coultard's Free School, being heartily welcomed by the natives on account of his likeness to his deceased brother, who had been much esteemed by them. For five years he worked successfully at Kingston, and then moved to Ridgeland, in the north-west of the island. There he laboured with success until the death of Mr. Mann, when he became pastor of the church at Falmouth. Soon after this—namely, in December, 1831—the negroes revolted, and commenced to burn the slave-holders' properties. Mr. Knibb and his fellow-missionaries, so soon as they heard of the intended revolt, did all in their power to prevent it, and for so doing were in danger of faring badly at the hands of the slaves. Notwithstanding their efforts to thus preserve the peace, they were at the beginning of 1832 cruelly persecuted and ill-used by the Government of the island, who seemed to think that the missionaries were responsible for the revolt! Mr. Knibb emerged scatheless, however, and in 1832 it was deemed advisable that, in company with Mr. Burchell, he should visit England, and lay before the British public an account of the state of the Baptist Mission, and the deplorable position of West Indian affairs. Mr. Knibb foreseeing that Christianity must either destroy despotism in Jamaica, or despotism Christianity, resolved that on his part nothing should be wanting to overthrow the inhuman system of slavery. With this end in view he attended the annual meeting of the Baptist Missionary Society, at Spa Fields Chapel, on 21st June, 1832. Up to this time the Baptist, like all other Missionary Societies, had carefully abstained from all participation in questions of a political nature; but the time for a change of policy was now come. "The altered course of the colonists demanded an altered course by the Societies. Knibb avowed this to the Committee. He told them the time was come for entire and immediate abolition. The excellent men listened to him with smiles, admiring his zeal, but doubting his prudence. The watchful Secretary read him a fatherly lecture on moderation. The hour of meeting arrived, and Knibb took his place on the platform. His turn to speak came. He stood up—he began. Fact was piled upon fact, horror upon horror. He declared that the Society's missions in Jamaica could no longer exist without the entire and immediate abolition of slavery. In the space of half-an-hour distance was annihilated, time forgotten, and the audience found itself in Jamaica

surrounded by the oppressors and oppressed amidst whips and fetters. The earnestness and intensity of the speaker as he went on to tell of slaughtered negroes, imprisoned missionaries, demolished chapels, and the growing opposition to the cause of missions communicated itself to the whole assembly, which was roused to the highest pitch of indignation. The Committee alone, perhaps, aided by a solemn sense of duty, remained somewhat able to take counsel with discretion. The Secretary pulled the tail of the speaker's coat, as a friendly caution. Dr. Cox, in his History of the Baptist Mission, has well described the incident. 'It was,' says he, 'a solemn moment, and the man was made for it. He paused—gave a lightning glance at the awful atrocities of the past, the glorious possibilities of the future, and the grandeur of his own position, as encompassed with terrible responsibilities; then, concentrating all his energies of thought, and feeling, and voice, he exclaimed, "Whatever may be the consequence, I *will* speak. At the risk of my connection with the Society, and all I hold dear, I will avow this; and if the friends of missions will not hear me, I will turn and tell it to my God; nor will I desist till the greatest of crimes, slavery, is abolished."'" He carried the meeting with him and ultimately the country—Lord Stanley's Bill for the abolition of colonial slavery being introduced into the House of Commons in May, 1833. In August, 1834, Mr. Knibb returned to Jamaica, and was as might be expected, warmly welcomed by his flock. It was on August 1st, 1838, that all the slaves were declared by law entirely free. Mr. Knibb congregated his people at Falmouth the night before, and as the clock began to strike twelve, called upon them to enter, exclaiming, as the twelfth stroke fell on the ear, "The monster is dead! The negro is free! Three cheers for the Queen!" As the monster was dead, the rites of sepulture had to be attended to; and accordingly at early dawn, as represented by the emblem of whips and fetters, deposited in a suitable coffin, and with a suitable inscription, the monster was duly buried. In February, 1840, Mr. Knibb again sailed for England in order to attend as a delegate the Anti-Slavery Convention to be held in London in June, 1840. He was warmly welcomed in England; but returned to Jamaica in November, 1840. Further troubles were in store for him there, however, for the conduct of the Baptist Mission being called in question he came to England in the spring of 1842 to vindicate it. During this visit the Jubilee of the Baptist Missionary Society was celebrated at Kettering, and Mr. Knibb naturally had peculiar

REV. WILLIAM KNIBB.

pleasure in addressing the meetings held there. He left Southampton for Jamaica on 2nd July, 1842. During the next few years the mission work was in great pecuniary straits, and it was in order, if possible, to concert some plan for relief that Knibb visited England in 1845. In this mission he was successful, £6,000 being granted to him by the Society. He returned to his residence at Kettering, near Falmouth, Jamaica, a village founded by him and named after his native town, in the autumn of 1845; but his work was nearly accomplished, for soon after his return he caught cold, fever ensued, and on 15th November, 1845, he joined the great majority.

(Memoir of Wm. Knibb, by John Howard Hinton, M.A., 2nd ed., 1849; The Evangelical Magazine, February, 1846; The Christian Witness, February, 1846.)

Leatherland, John Ayre, was born at Kettering on May 11th, 1812. His father, who was a carpenter, died about 1818, and his mother (who was a daughter of John Ayre, a Baptist minister, first at Walgrave and later on at Braybrook, and one of the 13 founders of the Baptist Missionary Society) married again in 1822. He always had a taste for literature, and received, considering his circumstances, which were poor, a fair education. In 1824 he was sent to learn shoemaking, but that trade becoming bad in 1829 he was apprenticed to the trade of ribbon weaving for five years. About 1836, trade being poor and wages low, he left the ribbon factory and learned to weave velvet. During all this time he pursued a course of self-instruction, and when in 1838 some Kettering gentlemen offered prizes for the two best essays on the Best Means of Improving the Condition of the Working Classes, he entered the competition and obtained the first prize. About this time he became an active member in the Chartist movement, and was appointed secretary to the local association. After holding that office about four years, however, his "sentiments having become quite opposed to those of its members generally," he felt it his duty to resign it, although he remained a member of the Association. In February, 1839, there was an incendiary fire in the town, and the incendiary, who held Chartist views, confided to Leatherland that he was the author of it. The secret which Leatherland had by threats been made to swear he would not divulge weighed much on his mind, and it was not until at length some years later, the incendiary through his own action was brought

to trial (at which he pleaded "not guilty," but was nevertheless condemned), that Leatherland really felt free once more. In the winter of 1846-7 his trade failed almost entirely, and he was glad to go back to his ribbon weaving. That soon failed him, too, however, and in company with two or three others he manufactured plain and fancy silk vests and then travelled about and sold them. He continued thus until July, 1850, when as a result of a fall from the Kettering and Northampton omnibus, which was upset, he sustained serious injuries, which for a long time confined him to his bed. On his recovery he turned his attention to literary work as a means of livelihood. In 1849, before his illness, he had been appointed local reporter to the *Northampton Herald*, and afterwards he was placed on the staff of other local newspapers. In 1859 he was appointed postmaster of Higham Ferrers, but owing to his inability to obtain a house there he had to relinquish the appointment. In 1862 he published a collection of his "Essays and Poems with a brief Autobiographical Memoir." Some of these essays had appeared in print before as prize essays, and treat of very varied subjects, while it is from the memoir that the foregoing particulars of his life are taken. From the date of the publication of his book to that of his death, in December, 1874, he continued his literary work, and although various poems and articles by him were from time to time published in local journals there has been no printed collection of his later writings.

Maddock, Abraham, was born in Long Acre, Westminster, June 12th, 1713. He was brought up to the law, and in November, 1733, was admitted an attorney, and continued in the profession till 1757, when (on September 25th) he was ordained Deacon by Dr. Thomas, Bishop of Lincoln. He received Priest's Orders on September 23rd, 1759, from Dr. Terrick, then Bishop of Peterborough. He began his ministry as curate to the well-known Rev. James Hervey. He remained at Weston Favell till November, 1760, when he went to Weldon for ten months, and from that place came on to Kettering on August 16th, 1761. Here he continued till June 28th, 1770, when he resigned his office as curate under Rev. Gilbert Bennet. From the Diary which he kept during this period it appears that he encountered a great deal of opposition here, and had anything but a quiet and peaceful time, at length being, through the continued pressure brought to bear on him, compelled to resign as just mentioned. In September, 1773, after

being without a charge for some time, he removed to Guilsborough and entered upon the curacy of Creaton, a neighbouring village. Here, it is recorded, he laboured in season and out of season, with all zeal and diligence and with eminent success for £20 a year. He died on July 17th, 1785, and was buried in the church-yard at Creaton, by his own desire, on the 21st, when a sermon was preached to a very large congregation, by the Rev. Thomas Scott, of Olney, afterwards rector of Aston-Sandford, from Acts xiii., 36.

[Vide Middleton's "Biographa Evangelica" and the transcript of the Diary of the Rev. Abraham Maddock, with notes thereon now in the possession of H. Gough, Esq., Redhill, and a summary of which appeared in the "Kettering Leader," March-May, 1889.]

Maidwell, John A.M., was born at Geddington, about the year 1609, and was probably a son of "Thomas Maydwell,[1] Gentleman, and Maria his wife, daughter of William Brakenbury, gentleman, which Thomas died December 6th, 1624, the said Maria died January 3rd, 1623." He was educated at Clare Hall, Cambridge (being "chamber fellow" of Dr. Gunning), and there obtained his degree. His first settlement as a minister was in a good living at Simpson, in Bucks, where he was inducted December 19th, 1636, on the presentation of Robert Stanton, Esq. That place he left during the Great Civil War, living and labouring in London during that period; while he put another minister into the church at Simpson to supply the place and receive the profits. When the war was over he went to Claybrooke, in Leicestershire, and was very successful in his work there. The people at Simpson, however, soon after desired him to return to them, and he acceded to their request, although the living there was less by £30 per annum than that at Claybrooke. He occurs as Rector of Simpson in 1649 and 1650, when the living was valued at £80, but was appointed Rector of Kettering in 1651, and continued to fill that office until he was ejected from the Church by the Act of Uniformity, which came into force on Black Bartholomew Day, August 24th, 1662. After his ejectment he frequently preached in his own and other houses in the town, until at length he opened a Meeting House, capable of seating 300 or 400 hearers, and so founded the Independent Church. He endured much persecution, one of his most bitter

[1] The Maidwells were a noted Geddington family, and "The Priory" was their seat there.

enemies being H. Sawyer, who often tried to get him into his power. It is said he once was imprisoned, but where and for what cause is not known. He had at times to adopt a disguise to escape his enemies, and by the "Five Mile Act" he was for a time banished from his home, retiring, it is supposed, to the house of H. Barwell, of Marston Trussell, near Market Harborough. Mr. Maidwell continued his labours almost to the last, and dying on January 9th, 1692, in the eighty-third year of his age, he was buried in the chancel of Kettering Church. A stone bearing a Latin inscription was placed over his grave, but the letters are now almost illegible. It is recorded of Mr. Maidwell that he was a good scholar, an excellent preacher, and a man of eminent piety. [*Vide* Lipscombe's Bucks; *The Citizen*, Jan., 1847. M.S., Dr. Williams' Library].

Munn, Jonathan, the well-known Cambridge tin-plate worker, was a native of this town, being born here in 1714. On his going to the University town his work found special acceptance with the students, and after his master's death, he married his widow, and carried on the business. He died at Cambridge, on February 13th, 1792, while his widow died in November, 1796, aet. 77. Portraits of both Mr. and Mrs. Munn have been published. A Benjamin Munn, and his wife Jane are mentioned in the old Independent Church books as being members in 1709, and were possibly the parents of Jonathan Munn. [Vide Dash's copy Bridge's Northamptonshire, Brit. Mus., for portraits, &c.]

Mursell, James, was the eldest child of the Rev. J. P. Mursell, of Leicester, the associate and successor of the celebrated Robert Hall. He was born at Leicester, July 22nd, 1829, and was educated at the Leicester Proprietary School, then under the superintendence of Mr. Cyrus Edmonds, one of the ablest scholars and teachers in that generation of Nonconformists (and the eldest son of the venerable Rev. Thos. Edmonds, of Cambridge); and Mr. J. F. Hollings, a man of ripe scholarship, progressive views, and genial disposition. On leaving school, at the age of seventeen, he entered the offices of Mr., afterwards Sir, Morton Peto, in whose service he remained about two years. On the termination of his connection with railway work, in which he had never felt at home, he was for fifteen months a tutor in the West End Academy, in Aberdeen, and it was during this period that he made up his mind to enter the ministry,

and from Aberdeen he accordingly went to Bristol Baptist College. After a very successful collegiate course of some three years, he in March, 1853, accepted the pastorate of the Baptist Church at Kettering. Here he laboured seventeen years, becoming a power amongst the churches of his own denomination, especially in Northamptonshire, and welcomed everywhere as a friend and counsellor. "He dwelt in the affections of his people, and was greatly helped in his work by her whom he took to be his wife." During his stay in Kettering, the congregation largely increased, and a new chapel was built. In January, 1870, he removed from Kettering, at the invitation of the Hallfield Baptist congregation, Bradford. In July, 1872, he became the pastor of the Bewick Street Church, Newcastle-on-Tyne, a position he filled, when on Friday, 28th May, 1875, he died, after a short illness. An ardent labourer in the ministry, he was also a considerable contributor to the periodical literature of his denomination.

[Vide "Funeral Sermon on the death of the Rev. James Mursell, with biographical notices, by Rev. J. T. Brown." Northampton: Taylor & Son. 1875. Baptist Magazine, 1875].

Plummer, John, was born near Tower Hill, London, on June 3rd, 1831. His father, a small staymaker, was too poor to give him even a common school education: added to which he was rendered partially lame and deaf by an illness he had when some seven or eight years old. He nevertheless picked up such scraps of learning as he could, and entered the Spitalfields School of Design, where he obtained the first prize for an outline drawing from the flat. Towards the end of 1853 the Plummers left London for Kettering, where father and son obtained employment in a stay factory. A controversy with the Roman Catholic Canon of Northampton—the Rev. John Dalton—on various matters connected with religion was the means of bringing his name before the public. In 1859 he published a tract entitled *The Freedom of Labour*, which was referred to by Lord Brougham as an "excellent and well-reasoned address on the subject of strikes." This tract was followed by others which, tending to show that capital was not necessarily opposed to labour, seem for a time to have roused local feeling against the author. Besides political essays he wrote numberless essays, letters, and articles on all manner of subjects as well as a number of poems for various magazines and papers. The "art of versifying" was his favourite pastime, and in 1860 he

published, by subscription, a volume entitled "Songs of Labour, Northamptonshire Rambles, and other Poems"; and about this time Lord Palmerston granted him £40 from the Royal Bounty Fund. Three or four years after the publication of "Songs of Labour" he accepted an offer of an engagement as a member of Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin's editorial staff, and removed to London. After remaining with Messrs. Cassell and Co. for about two years he aided in establishing the *London Figaro,* which for more than a year was issued as a daily publication under the direction of Mr. James Mortimer, an intimate friend of the late French Emperor. Two years later he accepted the sub-editorship of a London daily paper, which post he occupied until he became associated with Mr. Stephen Fiske in the management of the London *Hornet* and the *Home Journal,* with the earlier issues of which Mr. Joseph Hatton, the popular novelist, was also connected. Here he remained for another two years, when the departure of Mr. Fiske for New York occasioned a change of proprietorship and the severance of his connection with the two publications. Thenceforth, until the close of 1878, his work was of an extremely varied character, including the editorship of the *Mineral Water Trades Review,* and the preparation of technical articles for various trade publications. He was also a frequent contributor to the *Daily News, Graphic,* and other journals, and as "special commissioner" of the *Nonconformist,* was the first to direct public attention to the labours of General (then plain William) Booth, in East London. He also prepared numerous articles on social and industrial topics for the *Companion to the British Almanack,* established by the late Charles Knight, and at one time entertained the idea of becoming a dramatic writer, being joint author, under the name of "Arthur Rushton," of an extravaganza and a farce successfully produced upon the London stage. His literary labours naturally brought him in contact with numerous persons eminent in the ranks of literature and art; but more especially those who had devoted themselves to the study of social and economical questions; and among the friendships thus formed he valued none more highly than those of John Stuart Mill, Edwin Chadwick, and Thomas Hare. So far back as 1861 or 1862 he became "English Social Affairs" Correspondent of the *Sydney Morning Herald,* and his name, which was appended to the monthly letters to Sydney, soon became familiar to Australians. He continued his duties as correspondent until the early part of 1879, when, accompanied by his wife and family, he proceeded to Sydney,

where he speedily made many friends and found ample occupation as editor and journalist, relieving his literary work by the performance of his duties as drawing master at the State Training College in Sydney. This office, to which he was appointed by the late Sir John Robertson, then Minister of Public Instruction for New South Wales, was held by him for nine years. He was also frequently employed by the Board of Technical Education to deliver lectures on Art as applied to industrial purposes and kindred subjects. These occupations were not, however, allowed to interfere with his extensive journalistic labours. He has several times written verses for public occasions, and when the centenary of Australian Settlement was celebrated in Sydney one of the features was the Centennial Ode, written by him, set to music by Herr Hugo Alpen, and sung by several thousand school children in the presence of Lord and Lady Carrington and other visitors. His restless energy, which has become a proverb in Sydney, where he is widely known and respected, is fully occupied in the advocacy of Co-operation and other social movements, and he has been urged to seek a seat in the New South Wales Legislative Assembly; but he prefers the press to the "House." He has a beautiful residence on the shores of the Lane Cove River, reached by steamer from Sydney. The land on which the villa stands was at the time of its purchase a portion of the primeval bush, and part of it has been allowed to remain in its original condition down to the waters of the bay. Where the ground has been cleared, roses, camellias, pelargoniums, geraniums, and magnolias grow in luxuriant profusion, while elsewhere may be seen numerous fruit trees, such as orange, apple, peach, banana, grape vines, and passion fruits. It is indeed a charming spot in which to reside after a life of ceaseless toil commenced under the most discouraging circumstances; but Mr. Plummer frequently recalls, with a touch of regret, the old days of struggle in Kettering and in the metropolis, and not the least cherished portion of his household treasures are the portraits of the many friends and acquaintances whom he left behind him in the old country.

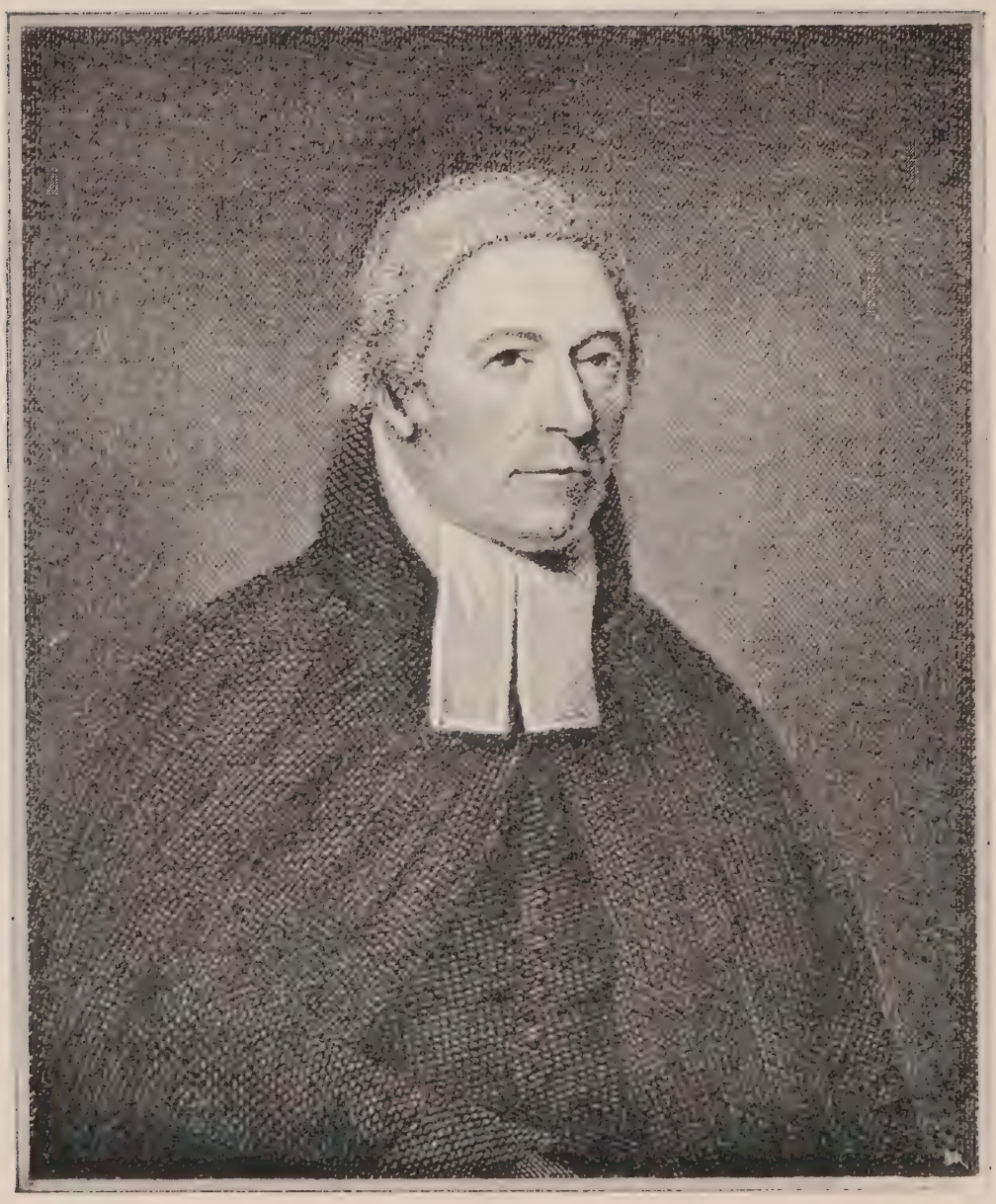
[Vide *Songs of Labour*, by John Plummer. London: W. Tweedie, 337, Strand, W.C. Kettering: Thomas Waddington, High Street. 1860. *Men of the Time*, Geo. Routledge & Sons, 1865. Letter from Mr. Plummer to the Author, June, 1891.]

Robinson, William, was born at Dunstable, in March, 1804. In

1826 he entered the Baptist College, Bristol, where he was educated for the ministry. In 1830, as already mentioned, he succeeded the Rev. J. K. Hall as pastor of the Fuller Chapel, Kettering, and during the twenty-two years which he filled that office he took a prominent part in the various political and other conflicts in the town. In 1852 he accepted the pastorate of St. Andrew's Chapel, Cambridge. In 1870 he was the Chairman of the Baptist Union. In January, 1874, by reason of age, he felt compelled to resign his pastorate at St. Andrew's, and in the spring of that year went to see a son who had settled at Wiota, in the State of Iowa, North America. Here his health greatly improved, till the middle of September, when he was seized with dysentery, and died on September 27th, 1874. His writings, although not numerous, were able, one of the most prominent being "The Sin of Conformity,' which has passed through three editions. He also edited "The Citizen," a periodical referred to elsewhere.

[Vide Funeral Sermon, preached by Rev. J. T. Brown, on the death of Mr. Robinson, and published by Taylor & Son, Northampton, in 1874, and the Biographical and Literary Notes contained in the Appendix thereto].

Satchell, John, born December 24th, 1723, at Weldon, in this county; entered the service of an attorney near Market Harborough in 1746, and while there had an opportunity of improving his education. In 1747 he was apprenticed to his brother-in-law, a master weaver, at Kettering. On September 3rd, 1755, he entered into "the holy estate of matrimony," marrying the housekeeper of a Kettering gentleman. In October, 1758, he became a member of the Baptist Church, but disagreeing with it on some doctrinal point, he seceded in April, 1761, and started a small church of his own. For many years he presided over and preached to his adherents, but at length coming to the conclusion that he was in error, he rejoined the Baptist Church in December, 1795, and his church was dissolved, his last discourse to his congregation being on the words, "I leave it with you, as my last request, that you hold your hope of eternal life on the obedience and sufferings of our Lord Jesus Christ." He died on Saturday, December 9th, 1797. He would seem to have been fairly successful in his weaving business, although he had heavy losses in his later years. He was the author of a religious novel, entitled *Thornton Abbey*, which was published posthumously in 1806.



REV. T. N. TOLLER.

[The foregoing particulars are to be found in a published letter, dated from Kettering on January 2nd, 1798, and written by his son, John Satchell, to Dr. Rippon.]

Smart, John, of Kettering, who died in 1774, at the age of eighty-four, affords an example of remarkable strength. It is recorded of him that he could take a five-bushels' sack of wheat on his shoulders without assistance, till within a few years of his death. He had thirty-four children by five wives. [Cole.] The *Northampton Mercury* for July 4th, 1768, contains the following contemporary account of him:—"There is now living in Kettering, in this County, one Smart, a Cobler, who is near 80 Years of Age, and has had five Wives: by the first of which he had 7 Children, by the second 18, all timely born and baptized; by the third none; by the fourth 5 children; and by the fifth, who is now living, he has had three. He is a man of about five Feet four Inches high, walks exceedingly nimble and upright, and propos'd within a Month past to lay the Bett of a Guinea that he could stand in a Strike Measure and take up fairly four Bushels of Wheat. In former years, it is very well known, he has often took up five Bushels."

Toller, Thomas Northcote, was born at South Petherton, a populous village in Somersetshire, in 1756. His parents were John and Mary Toller (née Northcote). His father was an attorney, and two of his brothers were brought up to that profession. At fifteen, he was sent to the academy at Daventry, over which Dr. Ashworth, the worthy successor of the celebrated Doddridge, presided; the assistant being Mr. Robins, who afterwards became president. After four years at Daventry, Mr. Toller was appointed to supply the Independent congregation at Kettering, and preached in the building, which now bears his name, for the first time on October 1st, 1775. His services being eminently acceptable he was eventually ordained pastor on May 28th, 1778. In 1793 he married Miss Elizabeth Gale, the eldest daughter of Mr. Wm. Gale, of Cranford, and by her had two children, John, who died in his infancy, and Thomas (mentioned elsewhere). Not long after the birth of her second child Mrs. Toller was attacked by consumption, and died on September 15th, 1796. In 1803 he took for his second wife Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Mr. William Wilkinson, of Northampton, by whom he had five children, Richard, William

Joseph, Henry, and George, all of whom, together with their mother, survived him. In 1820 his health visibly declined, and towards the end of that year his son, Thos. Toller, who was at the time preaching at Wem, in Shropshire, was sent for to act as assistant pastor. On Sunday, February 25th, 1821, he preached in the morning from Isaiah lxiii. 7-13, and rose as usual on the Monday morning, but about noon on that day he was seized by an apoplectic fit and shortly after expired. His remains were buried in the Meeting House yard on March 8th, the Revs. Messrs. Horsey and Edwards, of Northampton, and Robert Hall taking part in the funeral services. "His person was above the middle stature; his appearance in the pulpit venerable and commanding; his voice deep and powerful." He possessed great originality of mind, excelled in exhibiting the common sense of mankind in a new and impressive form, and exercised a great power over the imagination and feelings when preaching, while the appropriateness, devotional feeling, and fervour of his prayers were remarkable. His relations with his congregation were most cordial, and he refused several pastorates offered him. He took a great interest in the Bible Society,[1] and did much to further its aims, being chosen, in 1812, as one of the secretaries of the Northamptonshire Auxiliary Bible Society.

[Vide "Sermons on various subjects, by the Rev. T. N. Toller. To which is prefixed, A Memoir of the Author, by Robert Hall, A.M. London, 1824."]

Toller, Thomas, was born on April 1st, 1796, and was the son of Thos. Northcote Toller, of Kettering. He was educated at Kettering Grammar School and at Wymondley Academy, and preached his first sermon in public in June, 1815. For six months in the year 1817 he preached at Bungay, and in November of that year he settled at Wem, in Shropshire, as pastor of the church there. In 1820, being summoned to Kettering to assist his father,

---

[1] The Bible Society seems to have been very popular at Kettering at the beginning of the century, and on July 12th, 1828, a meeting is said to have been held here in a barn which was attended by a thousand persons. It is said, traditionally, that sometimes two or three thousand people were present at the meetings, and old subscribers to the Society used to refer to these as contrasting remarkably with the "heavy tiresome meetings of the same society about thirty years ago, when about forty persons assembled in the neighbouring towns, and they were very fatiguing specimens of a paralyzed interest."—The late Mr. James Sculthorpe's memoranda, quoted in N.N. and Q., vol. ii., page 76.

REV. THOMAS TOLLER.

he resigned the Wem pastorate into the hands of Rev. T. W. Jenkyn, afterwards the Principal of Coward College, London. On his father's death, on February 26th, 1821, he was chosen as his successor, and for nearly fifty-five years filled the pastoral office. In 1821 he married Mary Walmsley, who was a descendant of Philip Henry, and a native of Wem. In July, 1871, the jubilee of his ministry was celebrated at Kettering, the Rev. Thos. Binney preaching on the occasion. An evening meeting, presided over by Mr. Joseph Stockburn, was held in a gigantic marquee erected in the Mission House Paddock. Ministers and other friends came from far and near, and Mr. Stockburn presented an illuminated address of congratulation to Mr. Toller, and begged he would accept the same together with a cheque for £700, "as a token of the sincere regard of many friends and of an affectionate church and people." Four years later, namely, in September, 1875, on the completion of the fifty-fourth year of his pastorate, and the hundredth anniversary of the settlement of his father in Kettering, he yielded to the solicitations of his friends, and consented to retire from the office he had so long and ably filled. He preached his valedictory sermon or address on the evening of the 26th September, 1875, taking as his text, 1 Chron. xxix. 29, 30, and giving a religious and historical survey of the many and great events which had happened in the preceding century, amongst other things incidentally mentioning that, "at the beginning of this century—say in 1800—Kettering in the neighbouring towns was called, perhaps derisively, the Holy Land, because of the closeness with which the Lord's-day was honoured, and also because of the almost universal practice of all classes of the inhabitants attending some place of worship." On Wednesday, September 29th, the public celebration of the centenary commenced, and Mr. C. H. Spurgeon preached to an immense crowd, in the afternoon, in the open air from Psa. lxxi. 17, 18. There was a meeting in the Chapel in the evening, and the celebration was continued on the two following days. Nearly the last of Mr. Toller's public appearances was on September 26th, 1883, when he laid the foundation stone of the Toller Sunday Schools in Meeting Lane, and on November 30th, 1885, in a good old age, full of years and honours, he passed away.

Vevers, Richard, B.D., for nine years Rector of Kettering (1829-1838), was born February 2nd, 1756; married January 1st, 1778, Theodosia Dorothy, third daughter of Rev. Wm. Anderson,

Bart., and Ann, his wife, of Lea, Lincolnshire; admitted to Holy Orders July 27th, 1783; Priest December 10th, 1784; died June 17th, 1838.

[*Vide* Monumental Tablet in Kettering Church.]

York, "Old," of Kettering, who followed the occupation of a pig-jobber, died about 1832, at the advanced age of 100 years. [Cole.]

INDEX.

PAGE

A.

Abbot's Court in 1291 9
Acrement Land 157
Advowson, The 12, 92
Aegelricus 5
Aelfsige, Grant to..... 3
Agricultural Society's Show 51
Alderman, Richard 14, 15
Aldwinckle's Charity 128, 131
Allen, Rev. Thos. 89, 94, 172
Amends, The..... 35
Athelwold, Bishop of Winchester 4
Ayre, John 49, 185

B.

Bag Lane 163
Bakehouse, The 14, 23, 27, 165
Baker's Charity 129, 132
Balk described.....122, 157
Baptist Charities 134
Baptist Church 105
Baptist Missionary Society, 38, 49, 139, 179
Barton's Holme 144, 157
Bayley Yard Chapel 105
Beaulieu, Lord 29
Bells, Church 77, 176
Bell Founder's Lane 163, 177
Bell Foundry 176
Bentham's Charity 126
Besburgh, Grant of 11
Bible Society 194
Boyce, Benjamin 103

PAGE

Bread Riot in 1795 38
Bridewell 164
Bridges, Dr. Nathaniel 128, 130
Brine, Rev. John 102, 105, 173
Broomhills 35, 36, 126, 157
Broughton *v.* Humphrey 144
Brown, Rev. John 107
Browne, John 96, 99, 175
Brown's Piece 157
Brudenell, John, Lord 29
Buccleuch Family 29, 30, 156, 169
Buccleuch MSS. 15, 30, 156, 169
Burial Board formed 70
Burton's Leases, Anthony 87, 94
Buswell's Charity 132

C.

Calvinistic Baptists 112
Camden on Kettering 13
Carriers.....16, 36
Carter, Wm., Assault on 17
Castle at Kettering 32
Cater's Charity 121
Catherine, Queen 12, 168
Cave's Doles 125
Cave Family 12
Cawston, Peter, Grant to 14
Censuses, Religious 101
Chartism..... 49
Charities of the Town 121
Charity School, Girls' 130
Chantry Chapel..... 84
Chester Camp 2

PAGE

Child and Gardiner, Assignment to 24
Child and Britten, Grant to 24
Chimes, Church..... 79
Church, The 5, 7, 8, 71
Church Endowments 9, 86
Church Building, Early 7
Church Clock 79, 82
Church Registers, 32, 35, 96, 100, 107, 117, 130, 173, 177
Churchwardens' Accounts 98
Churches, New 52, 53
Church Plate, Old..... 97
Citizen Magazine 137
Clydrowe, Sir George 97
Coal bored for 37
Cock Lane 162
Collis, Nathaniel 127, 133, 160
Conservative Club 52
Corody, A. 10
Corn Exchange 52
Corrie, Rev. Henry, 47, 49, 74, 95, 175
Cosmo III.'s Travels 32
Coteria Tenure 1
Cottingham, Grant of 11
Cow Lane 157
Cransley Holme 30
Cullen, Barbara, Viscountess 97
Customs, Manorial 141

D.

Dane Meadow 157
Danish Inruption 4
Dash's Charity 133
Davenport's Charity 108, 134
Dawson's Charity 126
Deep Slade..... 157
Delaber, Grant to John 10
Depup, Edward..... 14
Digby, Sir John 12
Ditchfield Grant 23
Divines in 1640, Meeting of 19
Dole defined 157
Domesday Book 4
Drainage in Olden Time 44
Drwery, Henry 14, 15

PAGE

Drury, Wm. 17
Dysebrook Meadow 157

E.

Eady, Christopher ...24, 126, 153, 154
Earthquake in 1792 38
Eayre Family ...60, 75, 77, 78, 79, 176
Edgar's Grant 3
Edwy's Grant 3
Elections, Old 21, 46, 47
Eleven Dussens 14, 23
Eltringham, William 107
Ely History 4
Emmerton's Holme Charity, 121, 127, 144
Ethelred's Charter 6
Eugenius, Charter of Pope..... 6

F.

Fairs, Kettering 22
Faulkner, Mary, Lady of Manor, 31, 59
Feast, The 5, 76
Feefarm Rent of £66 7s. 10½d. 23, 24, 28
Fires 32, 36, 37
Fire Engines 45
Fish, Rev. Henry 177
Flaxwell Furlong 157
Fowler, Rev. Wm. 94, 116
Freewarren, License of 6
Friends, Society of 99, 175
Fuller, Rev. Andrew, 49, 109, 110, 140, 178
Fuller, Rev. John..... 103
Fuller Chapel built 111

G.

Game Rights, Royal..... 18
Garrard's Grant..... 13
Gas Company formed 47
George III.'s Jubilee 43
George Lane 162

PAGE

Gibbon's Charity.....128, 129
Gill, Dr. 102, 105, 174, 179
Goadby's Yard 165
Goldeney, Rectory valued for..... 93
Gold Street 163
Gotch MSS. 38, 160
Gotch, Dr. F. W. 181
Gotch Family, 38, 42, 48, 125, 134, 181
Gotch's Charity..... 134
Goosepasture Lane 162
Grammar School 28, 114
Green, Dr. Simon 94, 97

H.

Hall, Rev. J. K. 110
Hall Pieces..... 35
Hall Field 12, 13, 15, 30
Hanbury, Sir John 17
Hanwell, Rev. Robert 107
Harris, Rev. Thos. 20, 94
Hart's Hill Furlong 157
Haslewood pursues Robbers 33
Haslewood Family.....33, 59, 162
Hastings, Colonel 20
Hatton, Grant to Sir Christopher, 13, 14
Hatton, Sale by Sir Wm. 15
Hatton, Grant to Robert..... 15
Hawes, Sale to Francis 30
Hazlewood Lane 162
Headlands, The..... 122
Henry VIII. 11
Hide, A 157
Higgins, Rev. E. H. 104
Highway Board formed 70
Hill, Francis 19
Hog leys 122, 164
Hogg, Rev. Jas. 118
Hogg, Rev. Reynold 49
" Holy Land " 195
Horsemarket, The 164
Howett the Schoolmaster 115
Hunt's Charity 126
Hurricane, Great 43
Huxloe Hundred 1, 168

PAGE

I.

Inclosure Act and Award 41, 42
Independents, The, ...101, 162
Independent Charities 132

J.

James I., Lease by.....16, 23
James and Grey, Grant to 85
Jenkinson, John ...48, 49, 110, 111, 157
Job's Yard 164
Jones, Richard 117
Jordan introduces Loomwork..... 34

K.

Kettering, Derivation of Word ... 1
Kettering, variously spelt ...1, 33, 139
Kettering, Description of...6, 13, 34, 44
" Kettering Magazine " 111
Kettering Newspapers 137, 138
Kettering Men purchase Manor... 24
Killingholm 35, 121, 126, 157
Kitcats..... 34
Knaphill.....35, 158
Knibb, Rev. William 49, 182
Knight, Rev. Joseph, 41, 95, 97, 118, 131
Knightley's Charity, Sir John ... 131
Knighton of Irthlingboro' 19

L.

Lads Holme 121, 158
Lamb, Sir John 19, 114, 156
Lamb's Lane 162
Lane, Sir Ralph..... 12
Lane, Elizabeth..... 14
Lane, John 14, 15, 142, 155
Lane, Bassil.....145, 149
Langley's Charity 132
Laud, Archbishop 20
Leatherland, J. A..... 185
Leigh, Sir Egerton 109
Leland's Itinerary..... 13
Leofsi seizes Kettering 4
Liber Niger 4

PAGE

Liberal Club 52
Links 16, 35, 36, 148, 158
Lime-pit Balk 158
Local Board formed 70
Loomwork introduced 34

M.

Maddock, Rev. A. 97, 108, 186
Manor House.....8, 76
Manorial Income...9, 10, 11, 15, 23, 27
Manor divided into Tenths 24, 25
Manor, History of Town, 3, 4, 11—16, 22, 23—31, 41
Manor, Rectory 41, 87, 153
Manufactures introduced 34, 45
Market Grants.....7, 14, 22, 23, 27, 38
Market Cross 161
Marlow's Charity 135
Martin de Bec goes to Rome 6
Marriages, Commonwealth 96
Maydwell, Rev. John...94, 101, 162, 187
Meadows' Charity..... 132
Meadow's Hedge Furlong 158
Meadows *v.* Sawyer 148
Medals, Local 139, 140
Mee's Charity 133
Middlefield 36, 122, 158
Middle Holme 158
Milway, Rev. Thomas 102
Mills 4, 7, 12, 41, 152, 154, 155
Mission Hall 52
Mission House 38, 49, 140
Monasteries surrendered 11
Montagu, Settlement by Sir Edw. 15
Montagu, Marriage of Henry..... 15
Montagu, Ladies Isabella and Mary 29
Montagu, Lord Edward 21
Montagu, John, Duke of ...29, 31, 156
Moreton, Rev. George 109
Morton, Rev. Richard 119
Munn, J..... 188
Mursell, Rev. James 111, 188
Muster in 1634 17
Myers, Rev. J. B..... 112

PAGE

N

Naphill 35, 158
Netherfield 30, 36, 122, 158
Neveslund Hundred..... 168
Newland 158, 163
Northampton, Assembly at..... 4
Northampton, Wm., Marquis of... 92
Nunneley's Charity 132

O.

Obit Priest..... 85
Olney Workhouse.. 56
Oundle seized by Leofsi 4
Overseers, List of Old..... 59

P.

Pack's Charity 121
Page's Hedge..... 158
Palmer Family.....28, 29
Papal seal Discovered 83
Parish in Business 64, 66, 67
Parkstile Lane 165
Parochial Rates..... 61
Parr de Horton, Lord, 11, 12, 13, 92, 142, 144
Paul, Doctors... 163
Peace Rejoicings, 1801..... 39
Peterborough Abbey 2, 4, 11
Pettifer's Dole 59, 121, 127, 160
Phillips, Rev. Thomas..... 112
Pickering, Sir Gilbert 21
Piepowder Courts 22, 27
Pillory..... 161
Plague, Great 32, 97
Plummer, John 189
Police Stations, Old and New...52, 164
Political Items 46, 47
Ponds, Street..... 44
Poor Laws, Old 54, 62
Poor Levies, Old 59
Poor, State of 61
Poor's Allotment 125
Population.....6, 34, 44, 53

PAGE

Press, Local 137
Primitive Methodists 113
Prince of Wales' Marriage..... 51
Public Buildings erected..... 52
Pudding Bag Lane 50, 163
Pumps, Town 44
Pytchley, Grant of 11

Q.

Quarter Sessions at Kettering ... 19
Queen's Coronation 49
Queen passes Kettering 50
Queen's Jubilee.....51, 140
Quit Rent not paid 144

R.

Rabbit's Leys 158
Race in 1727 35
Railways, Local..... 50
Rainfall Tables..... 170
Ramsey, Abbot..... 11
Rebellion of 1745 .....37, 75
Rectors, List of..... 93
Rectory Manor 41, 87
Reform Act Celebration 46
Restoration of Church 81
Reve and Bullit, Grant to 92
Rich, Grant to 15
Richard I., Charter of 7
Roads, Old Time 40
Robinson, Rev. Wm., 48, 111, 137, 191
Rockingham Forest 2, 6
Rockingham, Edward, Lord, 22, 28, 30
Rockingham Castle 21
Roman Remains and Coins..... 2
Rood Loft 73
Rothwell Market Tradition 32
Rothwell, Roger de 8
Rotten Row 34, 37, 127, 160
Roughton, Job 56, 164
Roundhill Furlong 158
Royalist Composition Papers ...22, 87
Royal Hotel 50, 126

PAGE

S.

Sacrists' Pension 7, 9, 86, 88
Salisbury, Will and Mary 12, 13
Salvation Army Barracks 52
Sanders, Richard 78
Satchell, John... .....108, 109, 192
Saunders, Rev. Thomas 103
Sauro, Emmanuel de 8, 93
Sawyer Arms..... 128
Sawyer Family, 15, 17, 19, 20, 21, 24, 30, 56, 75, 89, 94, 115, 146, 154, 188
Sawyer's Hospital..... 127
Sawyer's Charity 56, 57, 130
Sawyer *v.* Humfrey 152
Sawyer *v.* Linnell 154
School Board formed 70
Schools, Public.....45, 48, 52, 66, 118
Seaton, Schoolmaster 114
Sessions House 16, 34, 38, 46, 160
Seward's Charity 134
Shepherd, Rev. William 102
Shepherd's Bush 158
Sherwin, Rev. Samuel 94, 116
Ship-money Tax resisted 17, 19
Smart, John 193
Smockskirts Charity..... 121
Snowstorm, Heavy 47
Soame Family 42, 59, 73, 116
Sondes, Lewis Thos. Lord 41, 160
South Sea Bubble..... 31
Spire of Church ascended 72
Staunch Lane..... 34
Stephen's Charter 6
Stewards of Manor 57, 142, 147
Stocks, The 143, 161
Stone, Kettering 136
Street Names 162
Surveys 14, 35, 41, 114
Swan Inn 19, 33, 147
Swan Street 163

T.

Talbot *v.* Judkin 147
Tanner's Lane 164

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY
LIBRARY

PAGE

Tates, Grant to the 15, 16
Tearle, Rev. F..... 119
Teetotalism, Pioneer of 48
Temperance Hall 2, 52
Tenths, Payment of..... 90
Tery, Rev. William 102
Tokens, Tradesmen's 139
Toller Centenary 104, 140, 195
Toller, Rev. T. N. 103, 193
Toller, Rev. T.....104, 194
Toller Schools 104
Tordoff Schools..... 113
Travelling Facilities, Old 39, 50
Tresham, Sir Thomas 13
Tresham and Gunpowder Plot ... 16
Tyler's Furlong..... 158

U.

Upper Field 36, 158

V.

Valor Ecclesiasticus.....11, 86, 87
Vestry, The 55, 70, 75
Vevers, Rev. R. 48, 95, 195
Victoria Hall 52
Volunteers, The 42

W.

Wadcroft 36, 163
Waddington and Son 137
Wakelin's Charity 132
Walcots.....35, 121, 126, 158
Wallis, Beeby 108, 109, 135
——— George 43
——— John 61, 70, 170
——— Robert 48
——— Samuel 43
——— Thomas, 105, 107, 109, 174, 180
——— William, 60, 101, 102, 105, 109, 180
War, Great Civil 20

PAGE

Warner the Schoolmaster 117
Warren of Conies...12, 16, 30, 35, 148
Watchmen 44
Water Supply..... 166
Watson and Kettering, Sir Lewis, 22, 25, 88
Watson, G. L. 22, 31, 93
Watson, Rev. J. M. 104
Weighing Machine, Old 44
Wellingborough, Plundering of... 20
Wellingborough Workhouse 56
Wesleyans, The..... 113
Westmoreland, Sessions House built by Earl of..... 16
Whipping Post 161
Whittaker, Visit of Thomas 48
White Hart 46, 50, 126
Wickley Gyles 147
Widdowson, Rev. T. 119, 120
Wild's Headland 158
William Williams' Assignment, 23, 24, 28
Wills, John.....102, 106
Willymott's Case 141
Wilson, Rev. 106
Windmill Ford 158
Winfield, Sir Robert.....148, 149
Wollaston's Troop 21
Woodhull, Sir Nicholas 13
Woodrow, Rev. S. G. 112
Workhouse, The 52, 55
Workhouse Lane 58, 164
Working Men's Club 52
Wright's Charity 132
Wright's Lane 164
Wulfere's Charter..... 6
Wymond's Charity.....107, 135

Y.

Yard Land 158
Yeomanry 43
York, Old 196
York Span Meadow 158

LONDON
PRINTED BY ALEXANDER AND SHEPHEARD
27 CHANCERY LANE W.C.

HOME-MADE BOOTS.

TIMPSON'S
FAMILY BOOT DEPÔT,
5, MARKET STREET, 5.

THE LADIES' DEPARTMENT

Is replete with a carefully-selected Stock,—the Largest in the Town.

ANY BOOT MADE TO MEASURE AT THE PRICES MARKED.

Every Boot marked in plain figures, and absolutely guaranteed.

Special Department for

Gentlemen's Bespoke

AND

GENERAL REPAIRS.

ESTABLISHED IN MANCHESTER 27 YEARS.

TIMPSON'S,
5, Market Street, Kettering.

D. R. BAXTER,

Upholsterer, Cabinet Maker, and Bedding Manufacturer,

HIGH ST., KETTERING.

All the latest styles in Drawing Room Suites.
A large assortment of Dining & Bedroom Suites.

EXTENSIVE VARIETY OF

BEDSTEADS, PALLIASSES, MATTRESSES, FEATHER BEDS,
SPRING MATTRESSES, PILLOWS, BOLSTERS,
AND CHAIR BEDSTEADS.

We manufacture our own bedding and warrant it pure.

BRUSSELS, TAPESTRY, & OTHER CARPETS.

Mats, Hearth Rugs, & Cocoa Matting.

FLOOR CLOTHS AND LINOLEUM.

OVER-MANTELS, MUSIC CABINETS, OCCASIONAL CHAIRS,
AND EVERY KIND OF FURNITURE,
IN ALL STYLES AND PRICES.

Delivery Free. Liberal Discount for Cash.